Bairu Tafla

Ethiopian Records of the Menilek Era

Selected Amharic Documents from the Nachlaß of Alfred Ilg 1884–1900

Aethiopistische Forschungen 54

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Aethiopistische Forschungen
Band 54

2005_36040

Aethiopistische Forschungen

Begründet von

Ernst Hammerschmidt

Herausgegeben von

Siegbert Uhlig

Band 54

2000

Harrassowitz Verlag · Wiesbaden

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Vignette: Adelheid Kordes

Publication of this book was supported by a grant from the *Johanna und Fritz Buch-Gedächtnisstiftung* and the *Hamburgische wissenschaftliche Stiftung.*

Die Deutsche Bibliothek – CIP-Einheitsaufnahme
Ein Titeldatensatz für diese Publikation ist bei Der Deutschen Bibliothek erhältlich

Die Deutsche Bibliothek – CIP Cataloguing-in-Publication-Data
A catalogue record for this publication is available from Die Deutsche Bibliothek

e-mail: cip@dbf.ddb.de

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Printed on permanent/durable paper.
Manufactured by MZ-Verlagsdruckerei GmbH, Memmingen
Printed in Germany

ISSN 0170-3196
ISBN 3-447-04258-3

Dedication

To the late Dieter Zwicky-Schwizer
who preserved the records.

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Acronyms

ÄthFor	Äthiopistische Forschungen. Gegründet von Ernst Hammerschmidt in 1977. Franz Steiner Verlag und Otto Harrassowitz Verlag.
AZ	Addis Zaman [= "New Age"]. An official Amharic daily newspaper which began as a weekly in 1942.
BTAG	Bairu Tafla, Aṣma Giyorgis and his Work: History of the Gällä and the Kingdom of Šawä = ÄthFor 18 (Stuttgart 1987).
BTDärgē	Bairu Tafla, Ras Dargé Sahlä Sellasé, c. 1827-1900 = JES 13.2 (1975) 17-37.
BTFEthBio	Bairu Tafla, Four Ethiopian Biographies: Däjjazmač Gärmamé, Däjjazmač Gäbrä Egziᶜabhér Moradä, Däjjazmač Balča and Käntiba Gäbru Dästa = JES 7.2 (1969) pp. 1-31.
BulMen	Aleksandr K. Bulatovich, S Vojskami Menelika II [three works of Bulatovich compiled and edited by I. S. Katsnelson of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.] (Moscow 1971).
CRItEt	Carlo Conti Rossini, Italia ed Etiopia dal Trattato d'Uccialli alla Battaglia di Adua (Roma 1935).
DMQ	Dastä Takla Wald, Addis yämäreññä mazgaba qälät bakähnätennä bahagara sab qwänqwä taṣṣfa = A new dictionary of Amareññä. Written in accordance with the parlance of the clergy and the peasants (Addis Ababä 1962 YG = 1969/70).
HWSBiog	Ḥeruy Walda Śellāsē, Yaḥeywat tārik = "Biographies" (Addis Ababä 1915 YG = 1922/23).
JES	Journal of Ethiopian Studies [organ of the Institute of Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababä].
KaneDic	Thomas Leiper Kane, Amharic-English Dictionary I-II (Wiesbaden 1990).
KBMQ	Tasammä Habta Mikäᶜēl, Kasätē berhan tasammä ya'amareññä mazgaba qälät = "Tasammä, the light revealer. An Amareññä dictionary" (Addis Ababä 1951 YG = 1958/59).

KellIg	Conrad Keller, Alfred Ilg, Sein Leben und Wirken als Schweizerischer Kulturbote in Abessinien (Frauenfeld - Leipzig 1918).
KWKMQ	Kidāna Wald Keflē, Maṣḥafa sawāsew wages wamazgaba qālāt ḥaddis. Nebābu bageʾez feččew bāmāreññā = "A book of grammar and verb, and a new dictionary. Geʾez entries with Amāreñā definitions (Addis Ababā 1948 YG = 1955/56)
Lit.	literal, literally.
LoepIlg	Willi Loepfe, Alfred Ilg und die äthiopische Eisenbahn = Beiträge zur Kolonial- und Überseegeschichte 12 (Zürich und Freiburg 1974).
Mén	Maurice de Coppet (ed.), Chronique du Règne de Ménélik II, Roi des Rois d'Éthiopie I-II (Paris 1930-31).
MeyEnzy	Meyers Enzyklopädisches Lexikon in 25 Bänden (Mannheim, Bibliographisches Institut AG, 1971-79).
MSEthCul	Māḥtama Śellāsē Walda Masqal, A study of the Ethiopian culture of horse-names = JES 7/2 (1969) pp. 195-303.
PÑMen	Ṗāwlos Ñoñño, Dāgmāwi Aṣē Menilek (Addis Ababā, Yakkātit 1984 YG = February-March 1992).
PuDiz	Giuseppe Puglisi, Chi è? dell' Eritrea 1952. Dizionario Biografico con una cronologia (Asmarā 1952).
RouAW	Alain Rouaud, Afä-Wärq 1868-1947. Un intellectuel éthiopien témoin de son temps = Contributions à la connaissance des élites africaines 6 (Paris 1991).
YG	Year of Grace (ʾAmata Meḥrat).
ZGSYoh	Zewde Gabre-Sellassie, Yohannes IV of Ethiopia. A political biography (Oxford 1975).

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to numerous individuals and institutions without whose generous assistance this work might not have received its present form. First of all, I should like to thank heartily the late Herr Dieter Zwicky-Schwizer and his widow, Iris Zwicky, for having confidence in me and for availing me of thousands of documents to examine, select and use for academic purposes. Frau Iris Zwicky has in addition laboured indefatigably for years packing and mailing the documents in portions from Zurich and contending with the customs when the same packets returned from Hamburg. The same degree of gratitude also goes to Prof. Richard Pankhurst, an old friend of the Zwickies, not only for introducing me to the descendants of Alfred Ilg, but also for his steady encouragement and his ever ready valuable advice. A profound appreciation of help goes to my mother-in-law, Studiendirektorin Eva Schmidt, who undertook the tedious work of xeroxing all the documents. Only the ones who witnessed the irregularities of the original papers in quality, size, thickness and condition of the papers can appreciate her service. She also accomplished an astounding feat by recording on tape all the documents in European languages. I will discuss this indispensable help at length in connection with another monograph.

Many other people have also contributed to this work in one way or another. To mention only some, Ato Tesfay Atsbeha, Ato Mammo Biyadgo, Ato Berhanu Beyene, Wayzaro Aida Bahta, Frau Gisela Zanier and of course my wife, Hildegard, have laboured with me in deciphering blurred documents, perusing the manuscript and searching for sources and materials. To all my deepest thanks. Their duty was to provide me with sources and raw materials for my research, and this they have done with interest and conscientiousness. The responsibility for any error in selection, translation, interpretation or substantiating lies, however, entirely with me.

Finally, I should like to express my gratitude to the editor of the series, Äthiopistische Forschungen, Prof. Dr. Dr. Siegbert Uhlig, and the Johanna und Fritz Buch-Gedächtnisstiftung for making the publication of the work possible.

Bairu Tafla
Hamburg, April 1997.

Introduction

The versatile Swiss engineer and court official of Emperor Menilek II has bequeathed us a uniquely outstanding collection of documents comparable in size and variety to that of a respectable archive or museum. During his 28 years of uninterrupted service to the Ethiopian government, Bitwaddad Ilg built palaces, churches and houses; constructed bridges, machines and water-pipes; repaired guns, gadgets and furniture; imported and exported industrial and agricultural products; undertook railway, agricultural and mining concessions; acted as a royal envoy, peace negotiator and advisor; took care of foreigners in the country as well as foreign correspondence of the state; published articles on ethnological, botanical, biological and historical subjects in various journals; collected systematically all sorts of objects of historical and scientific interest for museums and institutions of higher learning as well as for academic friends and for himself; above all, he collected and preserved papers of all kinds - receipts, notes, letters, contracts, concession papers, proclamations as well as certificates of merit and appointments - from which the 312 documents contained in the present volume have been culled. All these aspects of Ilg's activities, his personality and character as well as his influence are being assessed in a separate monograph. At this point, only the last component is of particular relevance to the work we set out to introduce.

Alfred Ilg's documentary collection is unique in so far as, at least to our present knowledge, none of the *Nachlässe* of the foreigners in the service of the Ethiopian government before and after Alfred Ilg is commensurate with it. Ilg was by no means the first foreigner to fill a high position in the Ethiopian government. Ethiopian sovereigns and ruling notables have apparently had the custom of offering to foreign individuals high positions specially if, in addition to being trustworthy, they were skilled in some of the spheres of knowledge peripheral to the Ethiopian practices such as technical and/or medical services or foreign diplomatic handlings. It is well-known that the leading treasurer of Emperor Iyyāsu II (1730-55) was a Greek by the name of George Braco of Scio (or Gregory Draco of Nios) who nevertheless does not appear to have left us an account of his stay in Ethiopia.[1]

The Englishman Nathaniel Pearce served Rās Walda Śellāsē well for a dozen years and by the time he returned home in 1817 he had almost forgotten his mother tongue. Unfortunately, his handwriting was poor, and all that could come out as a record of his fairly keen observation and experience in Ethiopia was a medium-sized two-volume work in which many of the Ethiopian names and phrases have to be guessed. Still less is known

1 Cf. Henry Salt, A Voyage to Abyssinia, and Travels into the Interior of that country (London 1814) app. III; J. H. Arrowsmith-Brown (Ed.), Prutky's Travels in Ethiopia and Other Countries = The Hakluyt Society. Second Series, Vol. 174 (London 1991) pp. 71, 73 f., 90, 92 f. and passim.

about the documentary contributions of John Bell and Walter Plowden,[2] two Englishmen who gained the favour of Emperor Tewodros II. Neither John Kirkham who was in the service of Emperor Yoḥannes IV nor Alfred Zintgraff who succeeded Ilg as state councillor is known to have left behind a documentary heritage on which we can rely for information on the events of their times.[3]

Alfred Ilg arrived in Šawā at the beginning of 1879 as a government employee to provide technical services. He immediately set himself to learning[4] the Amharic language and integrating himself into the society by taking an Ethiopian woman for a wife, like most of his contemporaries. He was talented in languages as well as in many other fields, and he was so proficient in Amharic in a relatively short time and so convincingly trustworthy in his behaviour that Negus Menilek sent him a year later as his envoy to Goǧǧām in connection with the affair of the Italian traveller, Antonio Cecchi[5]. He obviously made at this time a good impression on Negus Takla Haymanot who mentioned this first rendezvous (cf. doc. 001) in a letter some years later and in fact added his wish that Ilg were in his service.

Some contemporary and later writers attributed his success to his fluency in spoken and written Amharic as well as to his integrity. A scholar who accompanied the German delegation to Ethiopia in 1905 wrote:

> "Herr Ilg is undoubtedly talented in diplomatic matters; he has clear judgement, business know-how and energy. The mere fact that he is the only man in Abyssinia having perfect command both of the languages required in diplomatic intercourse and of spoken and written Amharic ensures him a pre-eminent position among the foreigners."[6]

Citing a letter of the French poet, Rimbaud, dated 9 January 1887, one of his biographers also alleges that two of the elements which contributed to Ilg's good relations with Menilek

2 Plowden's travel account was posthumously published under the title: Travels in Abyssinia and the Galla Country (London 1968).

3 The work of Zintgraff, Der Tod des Löwen von Juda. Dichtung und Wahrheit aus Kaiser Menelik's von Abessinien letzten Tagen (Berlin 1926), though interesting, can but be taken as a satirical literary piece at best.

4 A family legend has it that his only textbook was the Amharic Bible which he compared to the German and French versions.
Conrad Keller also reproduced the story (cf. KelIlg pp. 38-40), though he does not say whether he heard it from Ilg himself or if it was his own conjecture. It is nonetheless thinkable, if it was necessary at all, that he made use of such works as the Amharic-English dictionary of Isenberg and the Amharic grammar of Praetorius.

5 1848-96, An Italian naval officer who explored the southern part of the Red Sea as well as southern Ethiopia in the years 1876-81. He was arrested by the ruler of Gērā on his way to the equatorial lakes, but was released through the intermediary of Negus Takla Haymanot of Goǧǧām through whose territory he subsequently travelled back to Italy. He described his journey in a two-volume work published in the mid-1880's. Cf. PuDiz p. 77 f.; ZGSYoh 276.

6 Cf. Felix Rosen, Eine Deutsche Gesandtschaft in Abessinien (Leipzig 1907) p. 189.

were his knowledge of the Amharic language and his integrity.[7] We cannot go into the details of these partial truths in this introductory presentation, but it should be emphasized that his knowledge of the Amharic language was certainly important for communicating with the sovereign and his courtiers without the need for an interpreter.[8]

Ilg's rise in rank and influence at the court of Menilek II developed gradually, but steadily. His knowledge of the official language, his integrity, his hard work, his vast skills and his sociable character are among the factors which contributed to this ascent. His friend and biographer, Keller, distinguishes two major periods in the role of Ilg in Ethiopia: the first was prior to the signature of the Italo-Ethiopian treaty of 1889 when he worked primarily as an engineer and hardly held another position though he was consulted on some matters from time to time. The second period followed 1889 when he gradually but consistently climbed in position higher and higher and won more and more recognition and respect from abroad.[9]

He was sent to Europe to purchase on behalf of the royal couple machines and other industrial articles in 1881-82 and 1887-88, assignments which he accomplished successfully in spite of the attempt of the British colonial officials in Zeila and Aden to discourage him (cf. docs. 004, 008, etc.). He managed to smuggle in precisely the thing they wanted to hinder - namely a machine for the production of cartridges - which he installed at Ankobar in the spring of 1889. The Emperor was so pleased with his achievements that he invited him in writing to attend his coronation (cf. doc. 044), an honour extended to the very few chosen ones.

Another factor which contributed to his popularity was the fall of Antonelli out of royal favour as a result of the controversy caused by Article xvii of the Treaty of Weċālē. There is no indication so far that Ilg was involved in any way in the making of the Treaty. Keller alleges that he was acquainted with its contents after some European statesmen responded to Menilek's letters pursuant to the coronation and the sovereign authorized Ilg to compare the Amharic and Italian texts.[10] Perhaps this is somewhat exaggerated, as he implies in one of his letters [cf. doc. 077) that he had warned the Emperor of the seriousness of the matter. Besides, he was on good terms with most of the officials who did, or could, know about it, including Count Antonelli and Grāzmāč Yosēf. But Ilg was a very cautious person who liked to keep his lips tight whenever politics might be involved, an attribute which could nowhere be more appreciated than at an Imperial court. The more seriously the Italo-Ethiopian disagreement developed into hostility, the more important became Ilg as a translator and co-composer of official letters, as a close councillor to the sovereign in

7 Cf. LoepIlg p. 12.

8 In spite of his fluency in the language, Ilg's Amharic remained largely "yafaranǧ amāreññā," to use the modern jargon. As can be gathered from his Amharic letters, he frequently mixed up "g" and "q", "č" and "č", "t" and "ṭ" as well as the vowels of the first, fourth and sixth orders. But his vocabulary was astoundingly rich.

9 Cf. KelIlg pp. 36 f.

10 KelIlg pp. 79 f.

foreign matters, and as a liaison negotiant between the Ethiopian and some European governments. "These days," wrote once the Empress, "both of you - yourself and Monsieur Chefneux[11] - are found to be our true and sincere friends" (cf. doc. 108). His loyalty and hard work brought him a reward in 1897 when the title and authority of *Bitwaddad* were bestowed upon him and the function of State Councillor was entrusted to him. "I heard of your appointment to the office," wrote to him Rās Makwannen[12] shortly thereafter and added, "may God make it real for you. It is delightful when a person works hard and thus be rewarded." (Cf. doc. 189).

Alfred Ilg travelled longer and wider within Ethiopia than most of his contemporaries, but he did not attempt to write a travel account. Whether he kept a diary could not even be established as yet. His interest obviously lay in hard work, letter-writing and the preservation of anything written. He wrote in German, French, Amharic, Italian and English, to mention his media of communication in the order of his preference. He was a dexterous letter-writer, and some of his German letters exceed the notion of that particular art in length, content and literary beauty. He wrote several of them at a time, though he did not write every day. The probable explanation for this is the practice of the then postal system which depended most of the time on the trade and travel caravans. He wrote four, five or more letters on occasions when a caravan or a ship was about to set out and some of the letters comprised several pages, though the news was in some cases repetitive.

Besides the letters he received, Ilg meticulously kept copies of his own letters as well as such of others as he could get hold of even if they were not addressed to him. Two types of archiving were used: Copies of his own letters and of others whose originals he could not retain were preserved in what he often referred to as "meine Bücher", large-sized hardcover "notebooks" or rather unruled cash-books with about 250 thin folios each. He copied the letters and lists of items on both sides of each leaf so that each volume comprised approximately 500 pages. He pursued this activity enthusiastically throughout the years

11 = Léon Chefneux (1853-1927), a leading French merchant in Šawā since the late 1870s. In some sources, he was referred to as "chief commercial adviser" of the Emperor. He was in any case involved in diplomatic, postal, monetary, railway and commercial activities in Ethiopia for about forty years. Cf. Count Gleichen, With the Mission to Menelik 1897 (London 1898) p. 168, 179, 245; RouAW 299.

12 = Rās Makwannen (Ca. 1852-1906), son of Tanāñña Warq Šāḥla Śellāsē and, hence, first cousin of Menilek II, and father of Emperor Ḫayla Śellāsē I. As a young man, he governed the area around Enṭoṭṭo, then the capital, with the title of Bālāmbārās and was promoted to Daǧǧāzmāč at the time he was given Ḥarar in 1887. He was created Rās in the spring of 1890. He was given the command of the vangard military force in the campaign of ʾAdwā, and led other big expeditions to Tegrāy and western Wallaggā in 1898-99. Cf. RouAW 306; Haile Sellassie I, My life and Ethiopia's progress, 1892-1937. Translated and annotated by Edward Ullendorff (Oxford 1976) pp. 14, 23 and passim.

beginning[13] with 23 January 1888, and filled 28 volumes in less than 20 years.[14] With the exception of a couple of instances in which a few pages have been plucked out for some unknown reason, all the volumes are still intact. Only the writing tarnished seriously in some cases not only by the lapse of time and the poor quality of the ink, but also because the paper was so thin that the writing on the verso often overshadowed the text of the recto and vice versa.

In contrast to the copies, the original letters addressed to Ilg himself or to the sovereign and some of his courtiers, and which came into the hands of Ilg, have been preserved well (excepting those written on poor paper or with inferior ink) in more or less chronological order in files and bundles classified according to themes. Each file or bundle is given a title in Ilg's handwriting. Some of the documents, which could not easily be identified, were also provided with annotations or cover sheets on which the writers and/or the dates are noted. Unfortunately, here again some documents are missing.

The question of the technique Ilg employed to reproduce the letters in the "books" is rather intriguing and has as yet not been resolved. For copies of his own letters, he may have used carbon paper, though there are indications that this was improbable. Besides, it is rather difficult to imagine that he sat for hours on end to copy the letters of others. They are in any case not all in his handwriting though they are reproduced in his "books". As an engineer, he must have had some technical aid to do this massive work. Historical studies on printing assert that there were many possibilities at the time, though it is difficult to establish which one he adopted. The first volume shows that he was not quite confident with his technical aid, as it bears marks of mischance which did not recur in the subsequent volumes. A French letter of Ilg himself addressed[15] to a French businessman in Marseilles is reproduced twice (pp. 5-14), apparently in an attempt to obtain a better copy, and indeed the second was much better than the first which was practically illegible. Another letter of 10 February 1888 addressed to M. Suel is copied backwards (pp. 32-34) which may indicate that Ilg did not use a carbon copy, but rather a different technique. Another letter addressed to a French businessman, de Gaspary, in Aden is reproduced in a transposed order: pp. 35, 37 and 36. A similar transposal is to be observed on pages 41-44. A letter addressed to a Swiss friend, Dr. Ulrich Kollbrunner, dated on 29 December 1888 (p.403) is inserted between other letters dated 1st of January 1889. Be it as it may, the select documents are here arranged in chronological order. Missing dates and place names pertaining to a document are supplemented with quotation marks from other related documents.

13 Why Ilg commenced his systematic archive at this particular point of time (almost ten years after his arrival in Ethiopia) is not clear. He was at this time on a semi-official visit to Europe during which he probably struck an idea of, or someone drew his attention to, its importance. His correspondence before this time is in any case scantier and unorganized.

14 Only the first twelve volumes and the parallel files have been used in connection with the present monograph. The rest will be used for the next compilation of select documents.

15 Ilg to M. Olive, Zürich 1 February 1888.

The criteria of selection are two: legibility and academic interest. It is of course of little purpose to try to reproduce a damaged document, particularly if the defect occurs at the core.[16] Not all the chosen documents are readily readable; some are in fact border cases, so to speak. Rewriting them in fine calligraphy would give pleasure to the eye; but errors would inevitably have crept in then. However modest they may look and however strenuous the deciphering may be, they are in essence worth the effort.

The academic interest has been considered in the course of the selection in its broadest scope. The historian of whatever speciality will certainly appreciate some of the documents; but the same scholar is also likely to toss others aside as insignificant, whereas the language analyst may find those very documents useful to evidence the development of the language during an unprecedented period of modernization, collect archaic terms, or track down other aspects. There are also documents of cultural, juridical and sociological interest.

Finally, some remarks on the translation. An endeavour has been made to transmit the full portent of the text into the translation. Where the exact purport could not be rendered fully, alternatives or literal translations have been given in footnotes. Implied or missing terms have been provided in square brackets. An attempt has also been made to be consistent wherever possible with the translations of recurrent phrases or sentences. This has not always been possible though, as even the common formulae are occasionally applied by the writers in a slightly different order. Untranslatable Ethiopian terms have been retained in italics as technical terms and have been defined in footnotes the first time they occurred. The writers and recipients of the letters as well as other persons mentioned in the documents have been identified briefly with some references in the footnotes. The index is made as detailed as possible so as to facilitate access to the documents, the footnotes and the sources used to corroborate particular points.

16 An exception must naturally be made for stone inscriptions which usually occur in scarcely documented historical periods where any fragment may be useful.

Emperor Menilek II (1844-1913)

Ras Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl (1852-1906)

Bitwaddad Alfred Ilg (1854-1916)

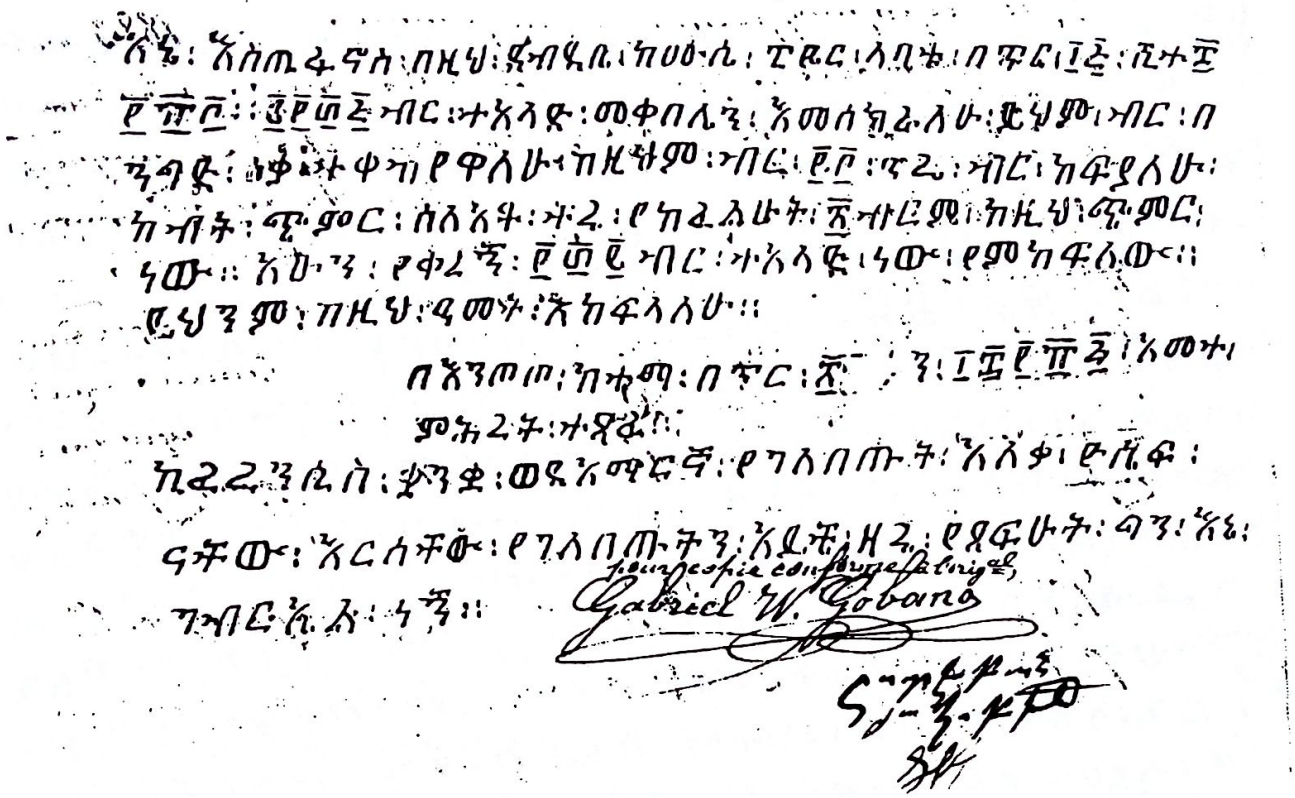
Empress Ṭāytu Beṭul (1847-1918)

Documents

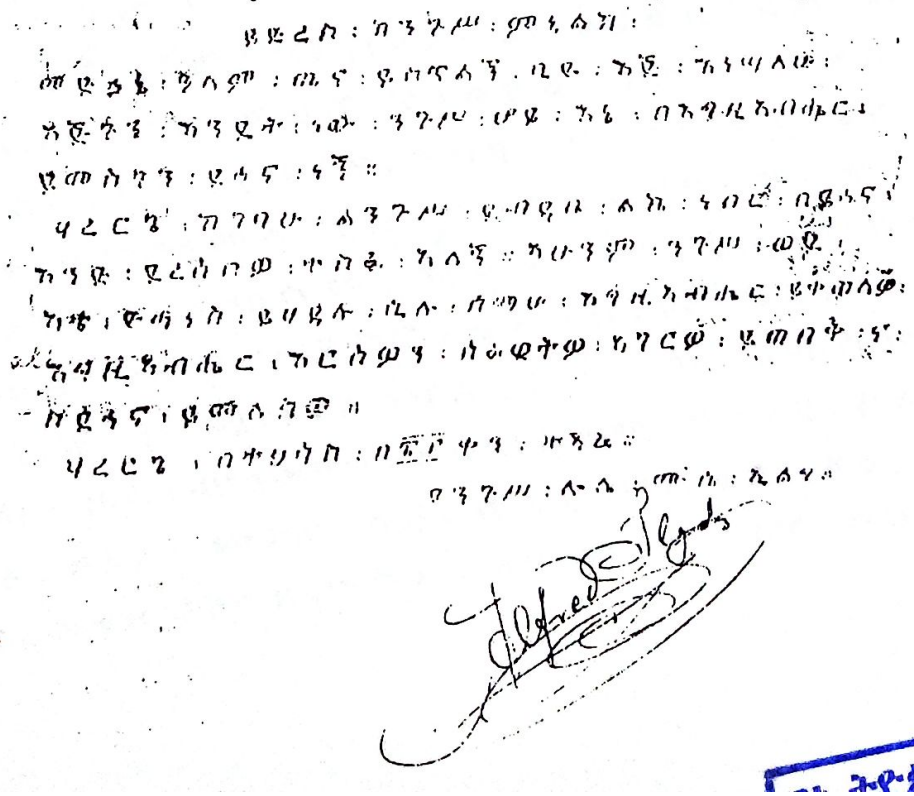
001. Negus Takla Haymanot to Alfred Ilg
Dabra Mareqos 3 March 1884

የተላከ፡ከንጉሥ፡ተክለ፡ሃይማኖት፡ርቱዓ፡ሃይማኖት፡ወ
ልደ፡ስማርቆስ፡ወንጊላዊ፡አዩመ፡ዮሐንስ፡ንግሥ
ት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ይድረስ፡ከመ፡ሌ፡ኢልግ፡እንደት፡ሰነበትህ
እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ይሁሀስገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ፡የሳነህብኝ፡ቃል፡
ሁሉ፡እውነትህ፡ነው፡ስንበቀ፡ም፡ከንጉሥ፡ምንይልክ፡ጋር፡
ተላልተን፡እውነትህ፡ነው፡ኮ፡ላ፡ብዙነህ፡ነበር፡እውነት፡
ነው፡ዛሬ፡መኮነን፡የዘንጊዜ፡እይ፡ግ፡አመአግኖ፡ነገረ
ኛ፡ነግ ር፡ግን፡በቀኩ፡ስጠኝ፡አስኝ፡እንጅ፡አዋሰኝ፡አሳስኝ
ም፡ነበር፡አሁንም፡ተላልች፡ሂደ፡ብዙ፡ቀን፡ሆኖች፡ነበር፡አ
ሁን፡ግን፡ተአርቅ፡ገብችአል፡ውሰች፡ነው፡ታልህ፡መልስ፡
ልከው፡እንጅ፡የእኔ፡ግዘብእማ፡ወዲሳ፡እንደች፡ይቀር
አል፡ሊሆን፡ከዚሳ፡በአማረህ፡ነበር፡አሁንም፡ፍቅራችን፡ይ
ጥናእንጅ፡አይጉደል፡ፊች፡ከች፡ጋራ፡ከጋሳ፡የ
መጣህ፡ጊዜ፡አምህን፡ጽፈሕ፡የሰጠኸኝንአልረሳውም፡አ
ሁንም፡አንተም፡አችርስኝ፡እኔም፡አልረሳህም፡ርሳቀተ፡ሀ
ገርስ፡ኤይከልሃነ፡ፍቅር፡ያስውን፡የመጽሐፉን፡ቃል፡ይ
ጋር፡ከዚሳም፡የተረፈውን፡ሁሉንም፡ከይመር፡ልኪብሀ
ለሁ፡ተጽሕፈ፡በይብረ፡ማርቆስ፡ከተማ፡አመ፡፳ወ፮ለአ
ካቲች፡በእስተ፡ሠሉስ፡በጊዜ፡፱ቱ፡ሰዓች፡በ፲፱ወ፲፱፫
፻፸ወተ፡ምህሐረች።

002. Promissory Note of Estifānos
Enṭoṭṭo 28 January 1885



003. Alfred Ilg to Negus Menilek
Ḥarargē 1 January "1888"

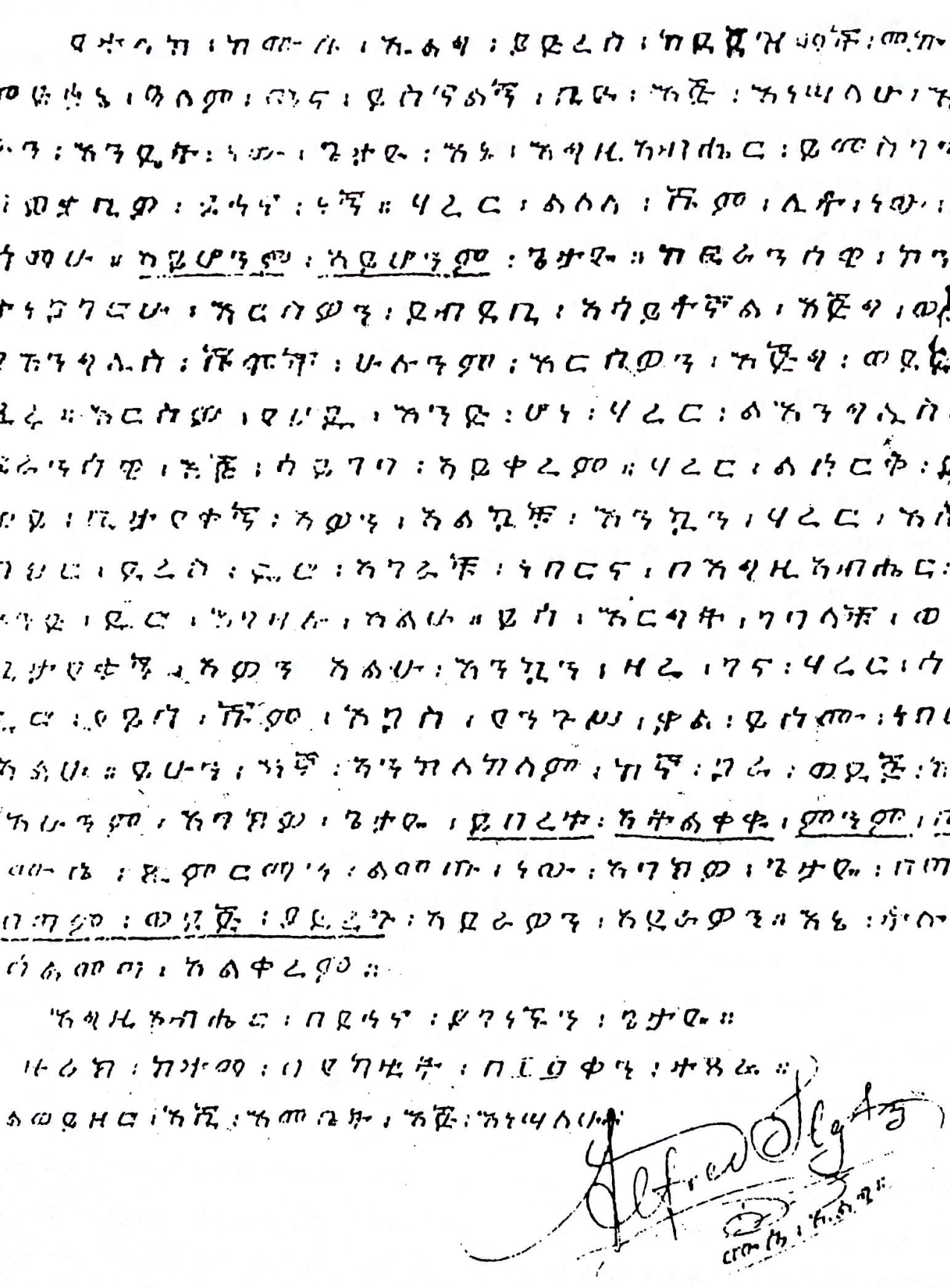


ብሔራዊ ጥናትና ምርምር
OF ETHIOPA

004. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 21 February "1888"

ይርገጓ ፣ ጉዟቸው ፡ ምኒልክ ፡ አልሆኗልና ። ሆኖር ፡ ጥረ ኪያንት ፡ ላረቁ ፡ ሥሻሩ ፣
አቢስ ፡ ጥረ ሲሂጓት ፣ ሙሴ ፡ ካርና ፡ ኪነ ጣሊል ። ኦጎንጊን ፡ አቹ ፣ ሙሴ ፡
ሰሙረ ፡ ኣቹላ ፡ ሥነጥበብ ካርዋል ። ኑፎት ፡ ካርኑሽ ፡ ሁለ ፡ በጣም ፡ ሥጽፋ
ነ፡ ለ ። ዛፈ ፡ ያሶጓ ፡ ኮሆጓ ፡ አናሰንባባም ፣ ዩለሉ ።
አሁጓ ፡ ሆሥብቹ ፣ ኑጉርዎ ፡ ኣለ አላሁ ። ሙሉ ፡ ጂ ያለ ርዕሰ ፡ ኣለ
ከድ ፡ ዩወሰላሉ ፡ ኣሳንክ ፡ ጎንጉሥ ፡ ሆቤ ፡ አቱኩ ፡ ወሄ ፡ ሥነጥበብ ።
ሁሳንቹ ፡ ጎም ፡ አቱ ፡ ጉ ፡ ጉልዘ ፡ ኣናሳለንባሉ ። ሙሉ ፡ ጂ ያለ ር
ላንስ ፡ አቢሁሠላ ፡ አቢራወጓ ፡ ሁሳቅ ፡ ታላቅ ፡ ኣካር ፡ አንቹ ፡ ጎና ፡
ነ፡ አሳሠረ ኤዛሰቱ ር ፡ ፎቃ ኩ ፡ በ ጎ ጉሥሠ ፡ ሥነ ር ታሉ ፡ ሁሥሥ ፡ ዩሥሳ ፡
ዩ፡ዘ፡ኖ፡ል ። ዋ ኩ ጣ ሉ ያ ፡ ሠ ር ፡ ሳ ፡ ሉ ፡ ሳ ያ ል ቅ ፡ አ ቢ ቀ ረ ያ ለ ። ሠ ጎ ኤ ሙ ር ያ
ጉ ል ቅ ፡ ጠ ር ፡ ሊ ሙ ጣ ፡ ኑ ለ ። ያ ለ ጎ ሳ ጣ ሉ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ቢ ሠ ሥ ፡ ያ ሥ ኑ ሃ ሳ ሉ ፡
ሠ ሉ ፡ ኔ ፡ ቪ ፍ ኔ ፡ ኣ ቀ ሁ ፡ ሀ ኣ ሳ ለ ፡ ቱ ሰ ነ ር ፡ ፀ ፀ ሪ ሙ ፡ ል ሳ ሉ ሥ ለ ሙ ኑ ፡
ያ ሉ ጉ ሉ ቋ ር ኣ ፡ ፡ ሀ ፎ ኤ ኑ ሳ ቂ ፡ ያ ለ ጎ ሳ ሉ ፡ ኣ ሉ ኣ ከ ድ ቀ ለ ፡ ሀ ኑ ሉ ሠ ፡
ለ ሂ ል ኽ ፡ ቃ ኩ ፡ ሩ ለ ቁ ፡ በ ሏ ኑ ቀ ለ ። ሳ ያ ር ሠ ጣ ፡ ኣ ሀ ቀ ረ ያ ለ ።
ቱ ኤ ኣ ር ጉ ያ ፡ ኑ ለ ያ ለ ፡ ሠ ሩ ፡ ሁ ሉ ቅ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ኣ ቁ ዞ ኣ ለ ዘ ኔ ር ፣ ያ ሠ ር
ዞ ሪ ኽ ፡ ከ ሉ ለ ፡ ሠ ር ፡ ሁ ሉ ቅ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ኣ ቁ ዞ ኣ ለ ዘ ኔ ር ፣ ያ ሠ ር ።
ኣ ሳ ዞ ኣ ለ ዘ ኔ ር ፣ ሠ ጎ ያ ቹ ፡ ሠ ሩ ፡ ሁ ሉ ቅ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ኣ ቁ ዞ ኣ ለ ።
ቢ ቹ ፡ ሆ ሉ ኑ ያ ለ ፡ ኣ ሀ ራ ለ ፡ ኑ ፣ ካ ሉ ቁ ። ።
ቱ ኤ ኣ ር ጉ ሥ ፡ ሉ ሳ ።

005. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Zurich 21 February "1888"

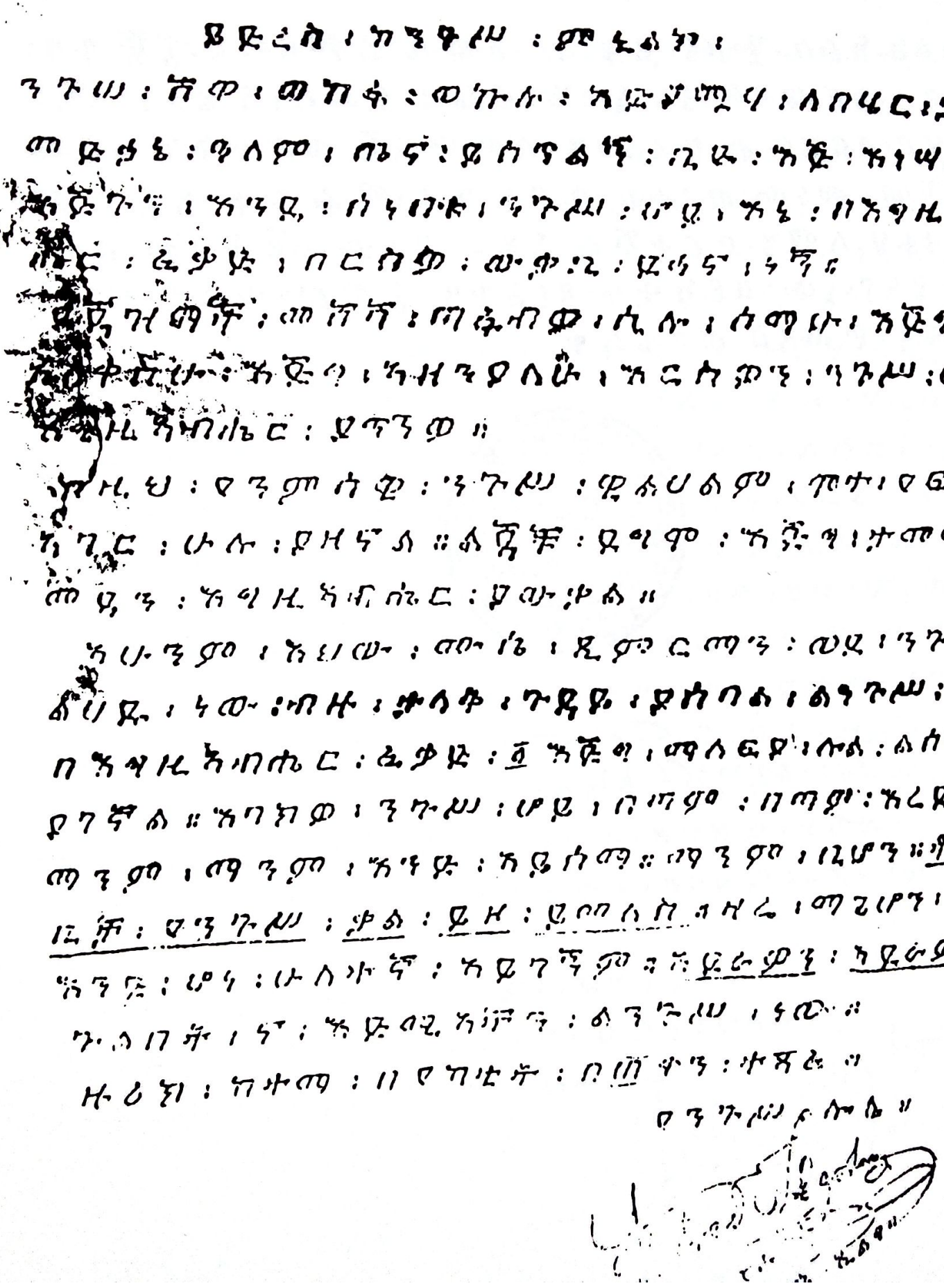


006. Gobanā Dāčč̣i to Alfred Zimmermann
Enṭoṭṭo 22 February 1888

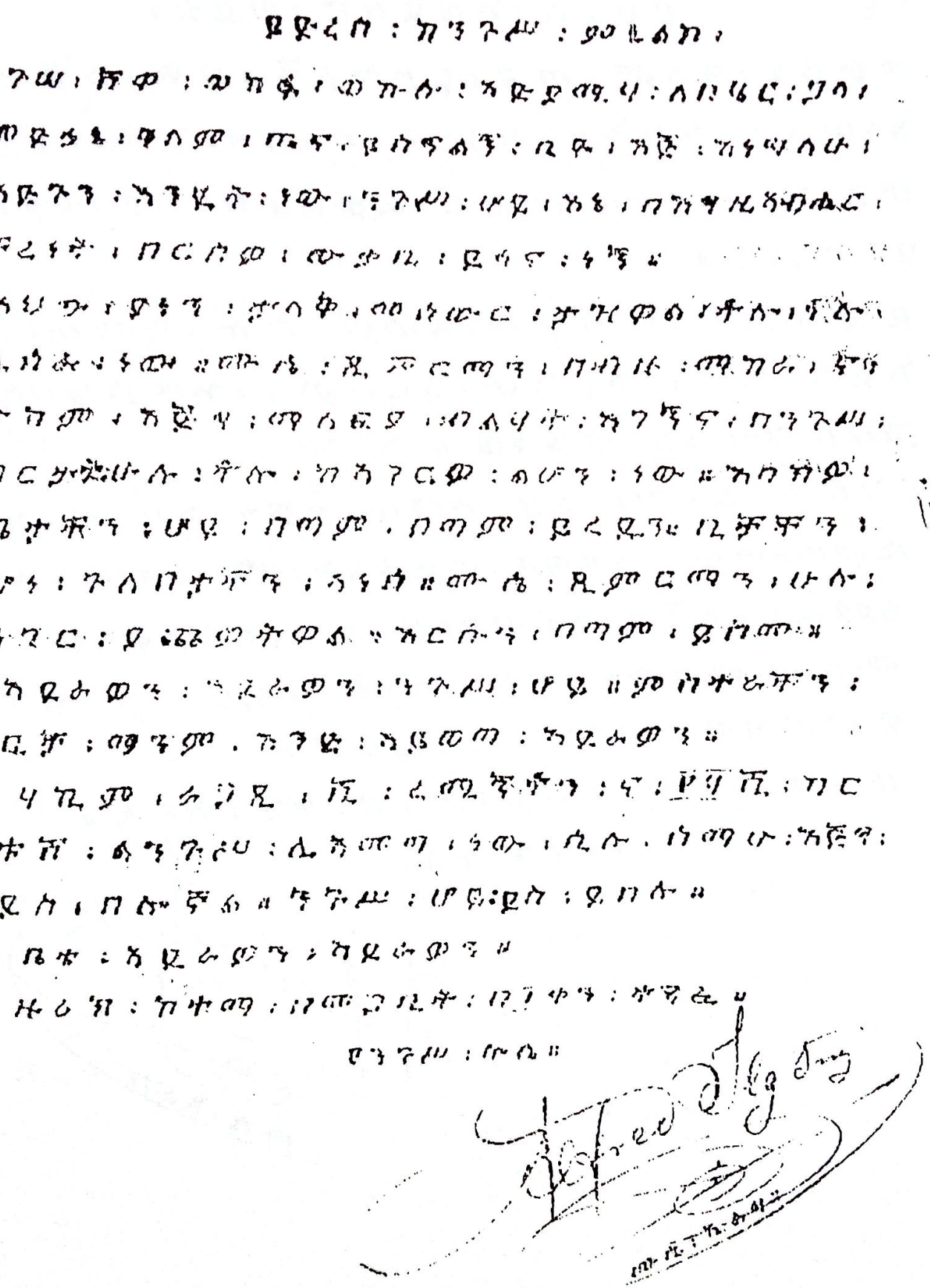
ሆቱ ሰከ፡ከ ራስ፡ጕበና፡ይ ጅ ረሰ፡ክሙ ሲ፡ሰ ም ር ማ ር፡እ ጅ ጕ ዓ፡ እ ዓ ዲ ጕ፡ከ ር ሙ ሃ ል ፡እ ኔ፡ እ ላ ዜ ኔ ዚ ሐ ር ፡ይ መ ሰ ግ ዓ፡ዲ ሃ ግ፡ ነ ኝ፡ እ ባ ሃ ር፡ ለ ዲ ሃ ና፡ መ ጅ ረ ሰ ሃ ዓ፡ ሰ ማ ሁ፡እ ጅ፡ወ ረ ቀ ጕ ሃ፡ ኔ ል መ ጠ ሰ ኝ ም ፡ ም ነ ው፡ወ ረ ቀ ቱ፡ ሰ ፣ ር ቁ፡ ጊ ዚ፡ መ ራ ራ ቂ፡ እ ዲ ሶ ም፡ ወ ረ ቀ ቱ ሃ፡ እ ም ዓ፡ ይ ር ቀ ኛ ል፡እ ዜ ሃ ፡ ያ ሰ ው፡ል ጂ ጕ ሃ ም፡ ቢ ጕ ሃ ም፡ ዲ ሃ ና፡ ነ ው፡ በ የ ካ ቲ ቱ፡ በ ፲ ቃ ዓ፡ እ ሮ ጦ፡ ሉ ጊ ፈ ፡ ፲ ፲ ፻ ፹ ፯ ዘ መ ዓ፡ ዮ ሐ ንሰ፡ወ ንጌ ሶ ዊ ፡

Zimmermann

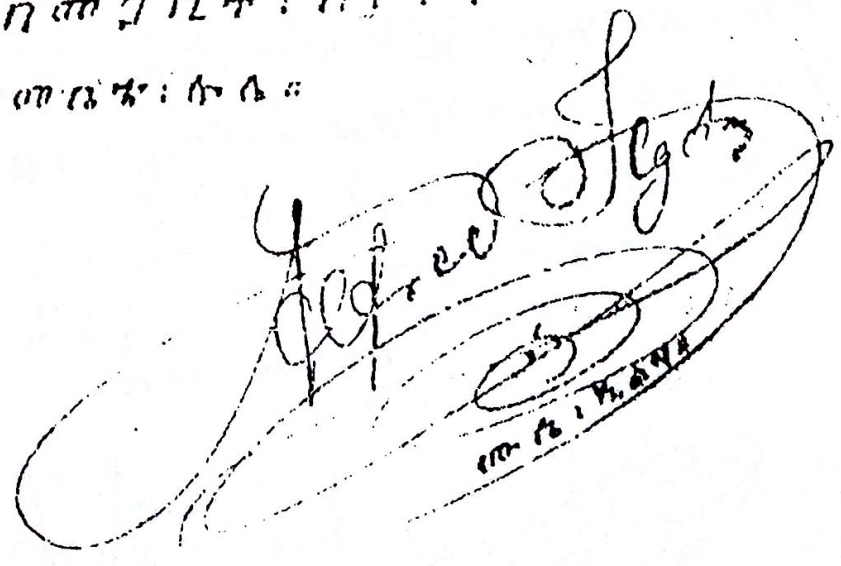
007. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 8 March "1888"



008. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 18 March "1888"



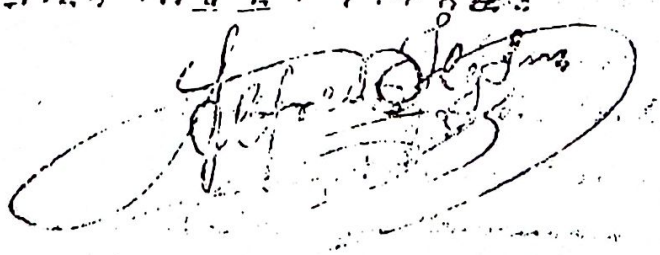
009. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 18 March "1888"



010. Alfred Ilg to Muḥammad Abubakkar
Zurich 4 April "1888"

169

Trittligasse 10
Zurich (Suisse)



011. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 8 June "1888"

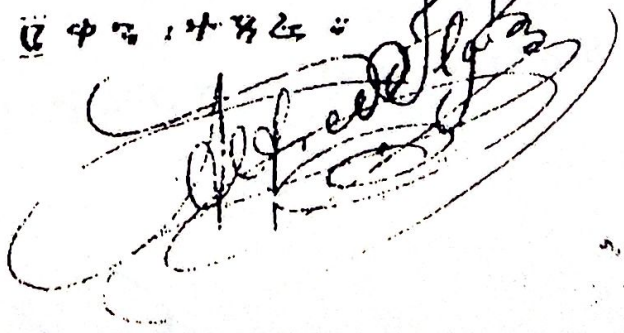
የተላከ : ከሙሉጌ ፡ ኤፊየ ኣንባሳደር ፡ ደዩረስ ፡ ከደሟዝማች ፡ ወልከሩፋኤ ፡ ወድኃኔ ፡ ቀሲፃሮ ፡ ጠሩና ፡ ይስኖፊኝ ፡ ዚዮ ፡ ኻጅ ፡ ኣካሣለሁ ፡ አጅጉን ፡ አጅጉን ፡ ኣንሂት ፡ ሰነበቱ ፡ ጌታዮ ፡ ሴትዎ ፡ ኣንርዎ ፡ ካዘጥዎ ፡ ሶራ ፡ ኣንዲሽ ፡ ነው ፡ ኣሉ ፡ ከ ኣሣ ዚኣክብሩር ፡ ሾረኔት ፡ በር ስዉ ፡ ሙቅዜ ፡ ኣስኽዲሩ ድረስ ፡ ደሓና ፡ ነኝ ። ንጉሠን ፡ ኣመሰቅኑ ፡ ኣርስዎት ፡ ግሥን ደግሽ ፡ ሁለ ፡ ናፈቁኝ ።

ደዘጸዚዎ ፡ ደረስልኝ ፡ ኻጅ ፡ ደስ ፡ በሉሯል ። ዲኣንኣኪ ፡ ኺርስዉን ፡ ዘርታት ፡ ቢሰማ ፡ ኣኺኝ ፡ ደስ ፡ በሉሯል ።

ፀደጣልያ ፡ ጦር ፡ ኹመለሰ ፡ ጌቪ ፡ ወታዲር ፡ ሲቻ ፡ ቀሩ ፡ ዲር ፡ ካን ፡ ከረያዉኝ ፡ ሠኔ ፡ ፊጦመለሰ ፡ ደሰንለሉ ። ዘሩ ፡ ያመሀጸኑ ፡ ጸለዩ ፡ ዚፈሩ ፡ ነው ። ኻኔ ፡ ሂኣነስ ፡ ገና ፡ ኣልታረቁም ። ኣባንኻቹ ፡ ኡጥንቀቁ ፡ የጣልያ ፡ የኣምፓራ ፡ ወደጅ ፡ ኣይዲሰም ። ኣሁንም ፡ ደግሞ ፡ ይጣልያ ፡ ከዘንዚባር ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ዝንፉፊ ፡ ሐውልት ። የትም ፡ የትም ፡ ኣገር ፡ ቂፈላጋሉ ።

ይንግሊስ ፡ ነ ፡ ፍራንሳዊ ፡ ክፉ ፡ ኣይዲለም ፡ ዛሬ ። ፍራንሳዊ ፡ ነፎት ፡ ያገባሉ ፡ ኹ ይለፈሉ ። ኣንግዲህ ፡ ኣንከለከለ ለም ፡ ይላሉ ። ኣርግኑ ፡ ልዐሆነ ፡ ነና ፡ በጠም ፡ ኣላስረግትሁም ። ኣኔ ፡ ዛሬ ፡ ወር ፡ ኣሉሣለሁ ። በዚ ፡ ነገር ፡ ኣመጣለሁ ። በይሳና ፡ ኣነው ፡ ኣነገነኝ ፡ ሎስቆ ፡ ኣለኝ ።

ዙሪክ ፡ ከሎጣ ፡ በሰኔ ፡ በ፰ ቀን ፡ ሎጻፈ ።



012. Alfred Ilg to Muḥammad Abubakkar
Zurich 27 June "1888"

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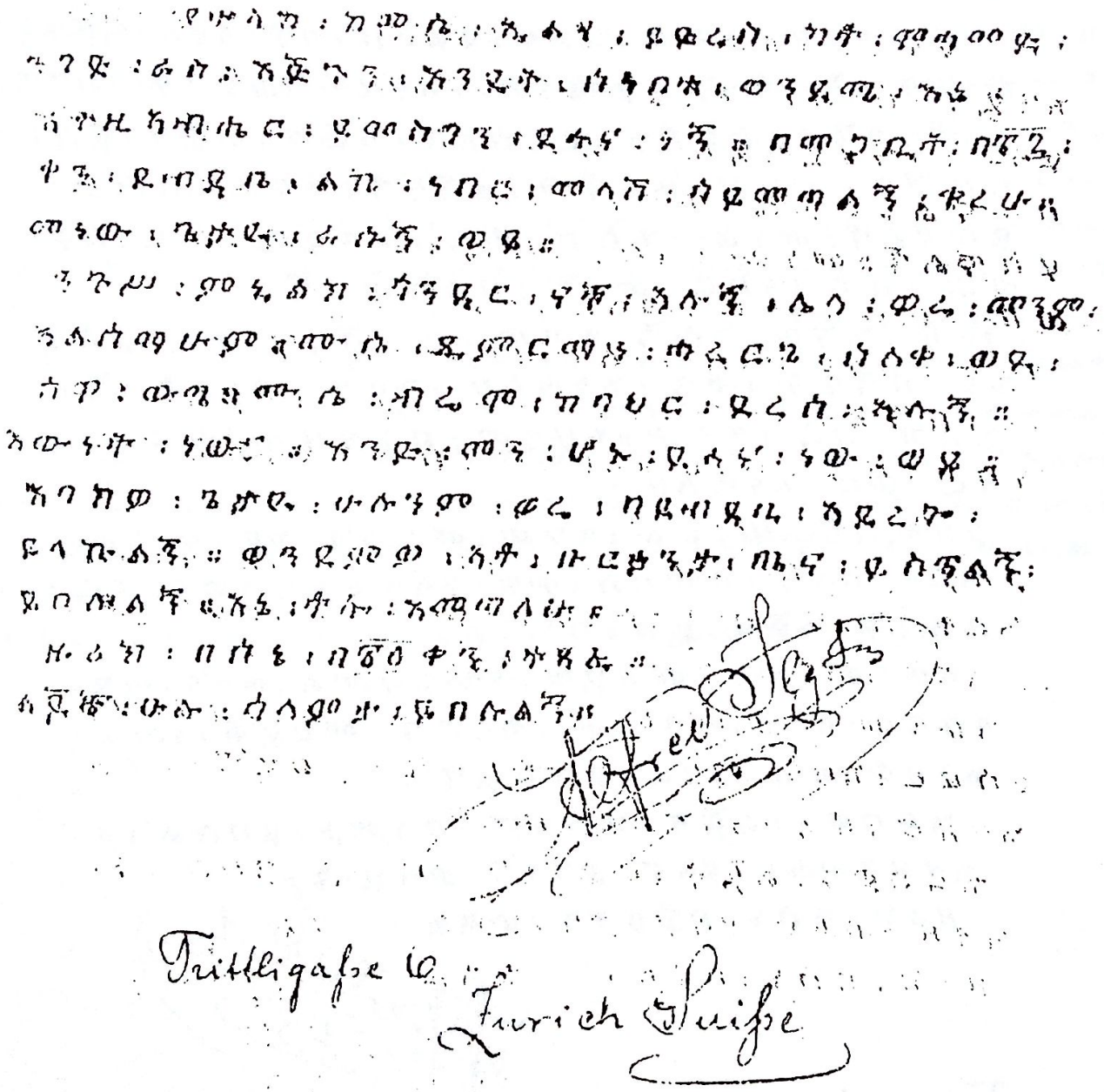
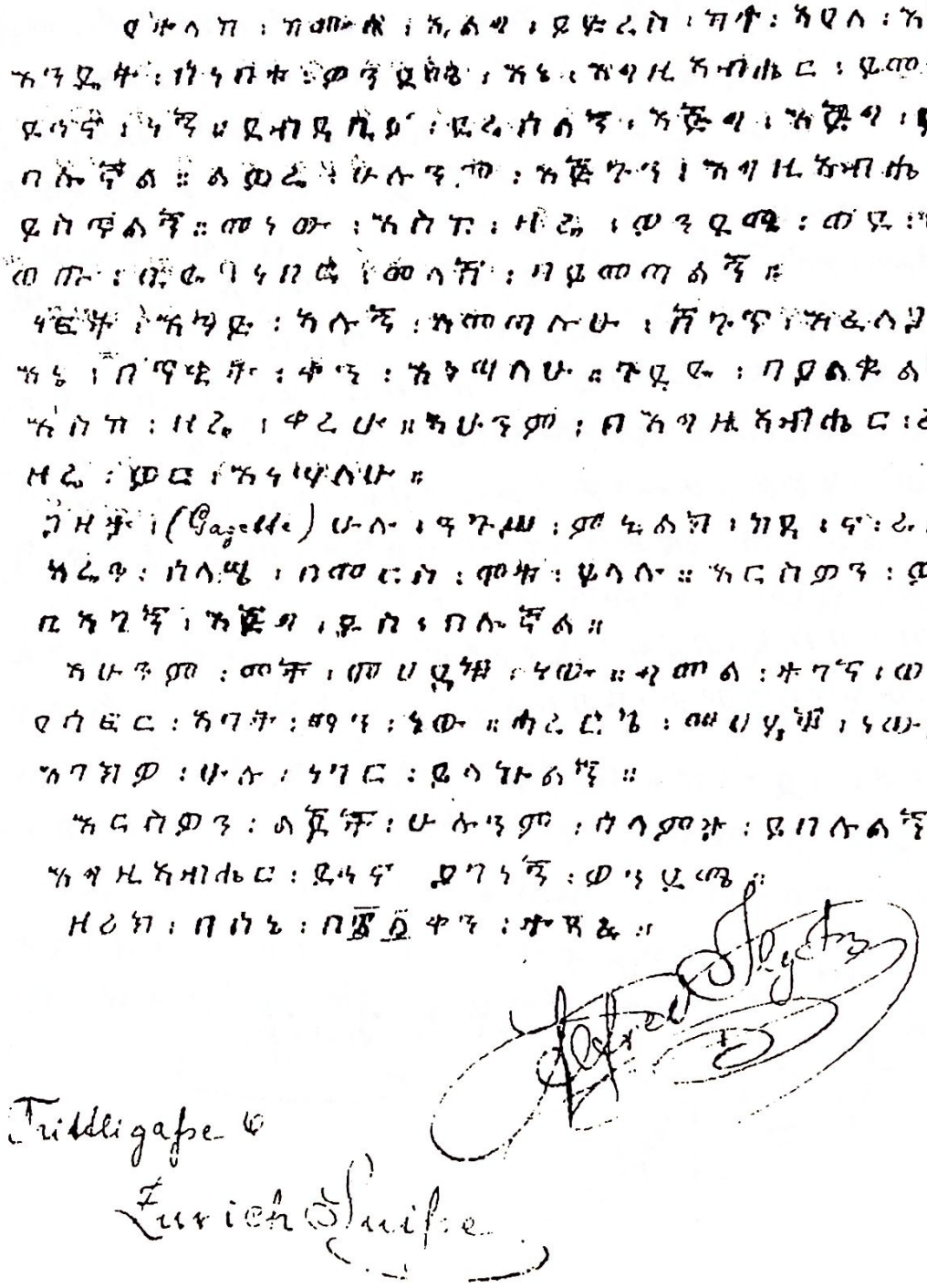


013. Alfred Ilg to Ayyala Yosēf
Zurich 30 June "1888"



Tiddligafe ©
Zurich Switzerland

014. Ayyala Yosēf to Alfred Ilg
Tagori 24 July 1888

የሱላክ፡ ከአየለ፡ይ ድረ ስ፡ ከገሃይ ዮ፡ ከአባቴ፡ ከምሉ፡ይ ልክ።። ካቡር፡መ ዴ ጅ፡ሆይ፡ ብዙ ጨ ና፡ኣን ዴ ት፡ነ ዎት፡መ ድ ኣነ ፡ዓለ ም፡ ጤ ና፡ይ ስጠ ዎ ።። እኔ፡ግ ፈ ዳ፡በእግዚአ ብሔ ር፡ቸ ርነ ት፡ይሄ ና፡ነ ኝ ።። ሥ ፊክ፡በሰ ኔ፡በ ፲ ፬፡ቀ ን፡የተ ዓ ራ ጨ ፡መረ ቀ ት ዎ፡በ ሀ ምሌ፡በ ፲ ፯፡ቀ ን፡ዴረ ስ ኛ፡በ ዞሪ ያ ን፡ጊ ዜ ፡ሃ ላ ቅ ፡ ሩ ሥ ሐ፡ሆ ነ ል ኝ ፡ኣ ባዞ አ ብ ሔ ር፡ያ ክ ብረ ዎ ።። በ ያ ሌ ጨ ፡ደ ስ፡ያ ሰ ኙ ዎ ።። የ ዓ ፈ ል ኛ ም፡መ ሬ ፡የ ራ ስ፡ኤ ር አ ያ ፡ሥ ላ ሴ ፡ሞ ት ፡ኤ ጨ ነ ት፡ነ ጨ ፡ነ ገ ር ፡ግ ን ፡ግ ኑ ሥ ፡ም ኒ ል ክ፡ከ አ ፄ፡ዮ ሐ ን ስ፡ን ራ ፡ኤ ጅ ግ፡ ጥ ቅ ር፡ና ቸ ው ፡ኪ ዳ ል ያ ዎ ች ፡ከ ዱ ፡ኤ ያ ሱ ፡የ ሚ ያ ወ ሩ ።። ዛሬ ም፡ጓ ጉ ሥ፡ኤ ሳ ጦ ጦ፡ግ ቸ ጨ ።። ኤ ሮ ሰ ዋ ን ም፡ አ ቶ፡መ ሐ መ ድ፡ይ ጠ ብ ቀ ዎ ታ ል፡ ም ሬ ፡ይ ልክ፡ሰ ይ መ ጡ ፡ኤ ል ሔ ድ ም፡ብ ኋ ል፡በ ዘይ ላ ም፡ግ መ ሬ ፡መ ልቱ ል ፡እ ር ሰ ዋ ን ም፡ ቸ ሎ ፡ ሊ መ ጡ ፡ነ ጨ ፡ከ አ ን ግ ሊ ዝ፡ነ ዋ ጥ ፡ለ ራ ሰ ዎ ፡ሊ ያ ወ ጡ ፡አ ስ ፈ ቅ ደ ዋ ል ፡ይ ባ ላ ል ።። ስ ለ ዚህ ፡ኮ ኔ ም፡ተ ስ ፋ ዮ ን ፡አ በ ረ ታ ለ ሁ ፡ላ ን ዱ ፡ጠ መ ጓ ዣ ፡ላ ን ዱ ፡ሽ ጥ ጥ ።። ም ሬ ፡ሳ ቦ ረ ፡ግ ን ፡የ ሚ መ ጣ ፡ አ ይ ደ ለ ም፡በ ዛ ር ቱ ፡ይ ጠ በ ቃ ል ፡አ ር ሉ ም፡ኮ መ ን ዱ ር ፡አ ስ ኪ መ ሰ ስ፡ይ ጠ ብ ቃ ል ።። አ ኖ ም፡መ ን ገ ዩ ፡አ ላ ገ ኘ ን ም፡ ዝ ን መ ጣ ም፡በ ዚህ፡ሰ ሞ ን ፡ነ ው ፡አ ሌ ዙ ያ ፡አ ሂ ሰ ነ ዝ ታ ለ ን ።።ኤ ኽ ካ ሮ ቹ ዎ ፡አ ነ መ ል ዱ ፡ሥ ላ ሴ ፡ባ ዘ ይ ላ ፡ይ ሄ ና ፡ሑ ቀ ም ጠ ው ፡ይ ጠ ዝ ሩ ዎ ታ ል ፡ስ ን ኪ ን ፡አ ሽ ካ ሮ ቹ ዎ ፡ዝ ዞ ፡የ ሀ በ ሻ ፡ል ጅ ፡እ ር ሰ ዎ ን ፡ይ ጠ ዝ ቃ ል ፡ቱ ሉ ፡ዝ ቻ ፡ይ ም ጡ ።።

ሥ ዓ ፈ ፡ሩ ጎ ሬ ፡በ ሃ ም ሌ ፡በ ፲ ፮ ፡ቀ ን ፡በ ፲ ፰ ፻ ፡ዓ መ ተ ፡ም ሕ ረ ት ።።

Yosēf a-Yelle

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015. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 3 August "1888"

ቁ ሁ ለ ክ ፡ ክ ሂ ደ ዝ ለ ማ ፡ ሠ ክ ኡ ጓ ጎ ። ። ደ ድ ረ ስ ፡ ክ ወ ሱ ፡ ኢ ል ላ ፡ ወ ጓ ድ ወ ሚ ኤ ድ ጉ ጓ ፡ ኢ ጓ ደ ች ፡ ሰ ጓ ዛ ኩ ሃ ል ፡ እ ኔ ፡ ኢ ላ ዞ ኢ አ ፡ ብ ሐ ር ፡ ዴ መ ሥ ጎ ጓ ፡ ደ ህ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ። ። ወ ደ ገ ር ህ ፍ ፡ መ ሂ ድ ህ ጓ ፡ ሰ ለ ማ ሁ ። ። ኢ ጓ ላ ዲ ህ ፡ ኑ ወ ደ ደ ፡ የ ሰ ለ ማ ኽ ው ጓ ፡ ወ ረ ፡ ሁ ሉ ጓ ፍ ኔ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ እ ጓ ድ ት ድ ኅ ል ኝ ። ። በ ወ ት ሮ ፡ ፍ ቅ ራ ችጓ ፡ ቁ ጓ ድ ወ ሚ ። ። ወ ደ ድ ነ ታ ች ጓ ፡ የ ለ ማ ደ ለ ወ ጥ ፡ ነ ው ና ፡ እ ደ ራ ላ ጓ ። ። እ ኔ ፡ ዘ ወ ት ር ፡ ተ ል ቦ ና ዱ ፡ እ ላ ለ ፉ ህ ፍ ። ። እ ጓ ኑ ፍ ፡ እ ች ዘ ጓ ጋ ፡ ወ ጓ ድ ወ ሚ ። ። እ ደ ጓ ፡ ላ ደ ፡ የ ሰ ለ ማ ኽ ው ጓ ም ፡ ወ ረ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ላ ኩ ሳ ኝ ። ። የ ፍ ፀ ት ወ ለ ስ በ ች ጓ ም ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ በ ዚ ህ ፡ ቀ ጓ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ሳ ለ ህ ፡ ላ ክ ል ኝ ። ። እ ላ ዞ ኢ አ ፡ ሐ ር ፡ ቦ ደ ህ ና ፡ መ ል ስ ህ ፡ በ ሕ ደ ወ ች ፡ ለ መ ግ ና ኘ ት ፡ ደ ሳ ቃ ጓ ። ። በ ሐ ፍ ፀ ሌ ፡ በ ሯ ቅ ጓ ፡ በ ሐ ረ ር ፡ ከ ሁ ለ ፡ ሁ ፈ ። ።

016. Servants to Alfred Ilg
Zeila 6 August "1888"

Documents

017. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 23 August 1888

GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL DE HARRAR

MOCCONEN.

የሉላክ፡ ከደጅ፡ ሰላማችን፡ መኰንን፡፡ ደ ሮረስ፡ ከወዲ፡
ኤልክ፡ ኤልዝ ኒር፡፡ ክዙውን፡ እንዴት፡ ሰንብተሃል፡
እኔ፡ አግዚአብሔር፡ ይመሥገን፡ የህኖ፡ ነኝ፡፡ ወረቀት
ህ፡ ደርሰልኖል፡፡ ነገር፡ ግን፡ አሁን፡ በቅርቡ፡ ወደ
ነአድንሰላር፡ ከላክኽው፡ ደብዳቤ፡ ጋራ፡ የኔ፡
ወረቀት፡ አልመጣልኝም፡፡ ወደንጉሥና፡ ወደነ፡፡
ርማር፡ የም ትልከው፡ ደብዳቤ፡ ሁሉ፡፡ እንደ፡
ደረሰልን፡ ሉሉ፡ ሉሉ፡ እል ካለሁ፡፡ አላውልህ፡
አላሳ ድርም፡፡ አንተም፡ እንግዲህ፡ የኤውሮጳን፡
ወሬና፡ ደ ህንነትህን፡፡ የም ትፈጣ በትን፡
ቀን፡ አስዝውቀህ፡ ላክልኝ፡ አደራህን፡ ወንድማዊ፡፡
ጢነሳሴ፡ ፲፭ ፡፡ ጠሐረር፡ ከተማ፡ ተጻፈ፡፡ ፲፱ ዓ.ም
መቱ፡ ም ህረት፡፡

018. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 30 August "1888"

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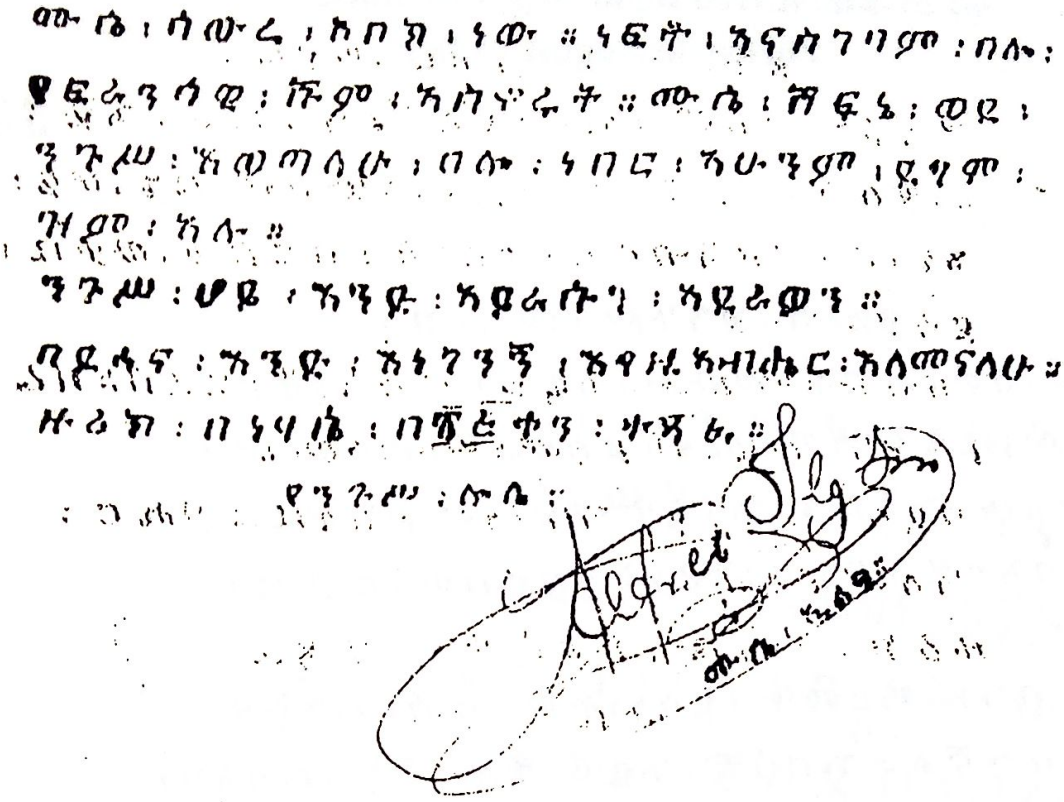
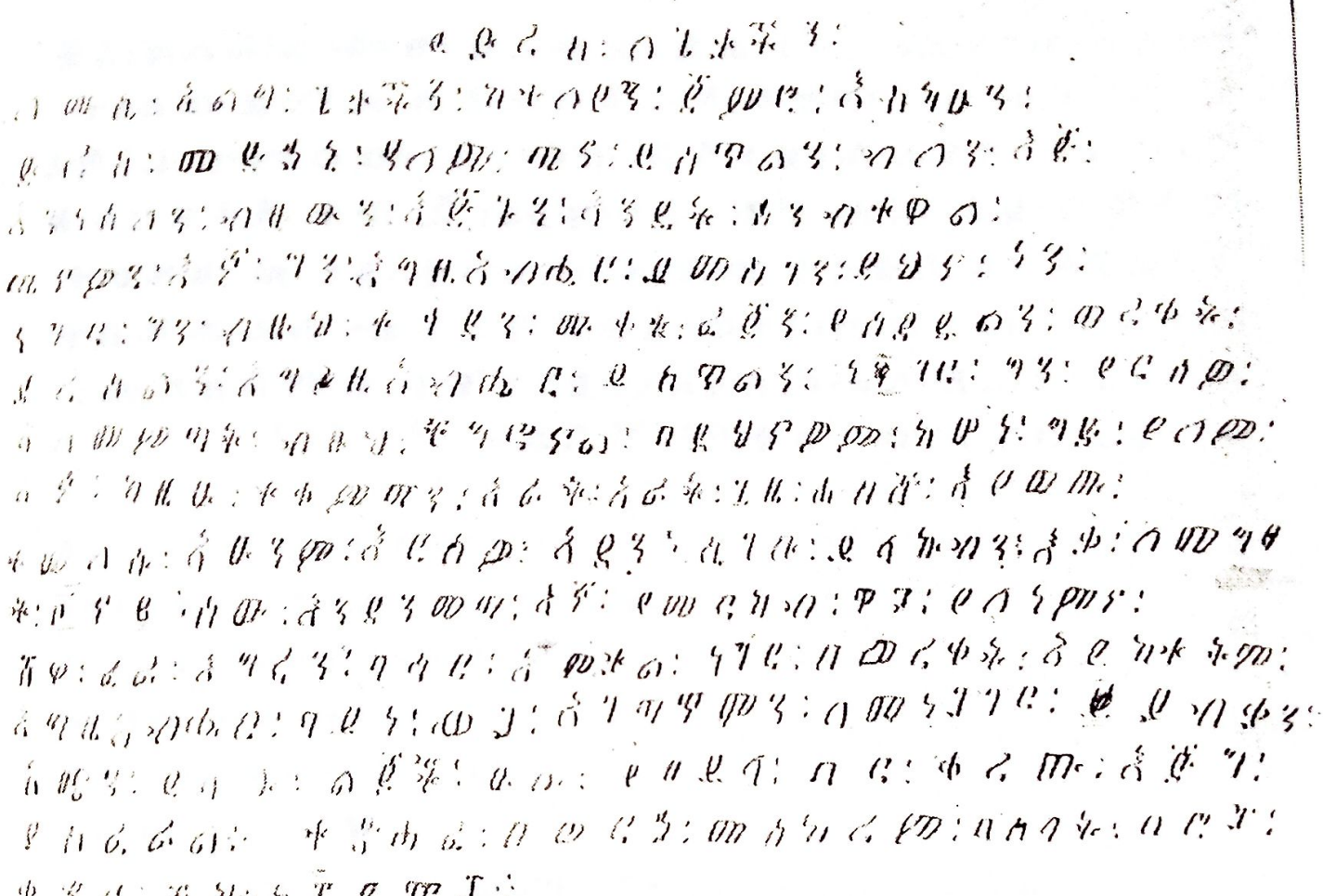
ቁድረስ ፡ ክንጉሥ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡
ንጉሠ ፡ ሸዋ ፡ ወ ክፋ ፡ ወ ኩለ ፡ ኣዩ ደ ሚካኤ ፡ ለ በሄር ፡
ጋላ ፡ መ ድታኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ሂ ስ ናልኛ ፡ ዚዮ ፡ ኣ ጅ ፡
ኣ ኅ ለ ሥ ፡ ኢ ጅ ጉን ፡ ኣ ና ሂ ት ፡ ኑ ሮ ፡ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ሆ ይ ፡
ኣ ኔ ፡ በ ኣ ግ ዚ ኣ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ቸ ረ ነ ቸ ፡ በ ር ስ ወ ፡ ሙ ዕ ዚ ፡
ይ ሳ ና ፡ ኑ ኝ ።
ከ መ ሌ ፡ ጂ ም ር ማ ኔ ፡ ይ ሳ ኔ ኑ ቱ ም ፡ ዘ ሰ ማ ፡ ኣ ጅ ሳ ፡
ደ ስ ፡ ሰ ሎ ኛ ል ። ኣ ር ሰ ቹ ፡ ጉ ይ ይ ፡ ቅ ሎ ፡ ቅ ሎ ፡ ቤ ኣ ል ክ ፡
ደ ቅ ፡ ነ በ ር ። ዘገ ዙ ፡ የ ቅ ይ ኣ ቹ ፡ ኣ ነ ድ ፡ ሆ ኔ ፡ ማ ሂ ሆ ቺ ፡
ን ግ ር ፡ ኣ ሂ ይ ለ ም ። ከ ባ ህ ር ፡ ፎ ራ ን ሳ ቂ ና ፡ ይ ጣ ል ያ ኖ ች ፡
ጥ ቂ ት ፡ ጥ ቂ ኮ ፡ ሰ ወ ሬ ፡ የ ሰ ማ ሙ ፡ ኣ ነ ድ ፡ ሆ ኔ ፡ ማ ሂ ሆ ን ፡
ነ ግ ር ፡ ኣ ሂ ይ ለ ም ፡ ና ፡ ወ ሬ ፡ ና ፡ ነ ፉ ለ ን ፡ ኣ ገ ር ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡
ቅ ሎ ፡ ይ ሰ ለ ቃ ል ። ኣ ጣ ክ ም ፡ ጌ ታ ሮ ፡ ቅ ሉ ፡ ይ ፈ ቬ ረ ሱ ።
ኣ ኔ ፡ ኣ ስ ክ ፡ ዛ ሬ ፡ ዘ ዘ ፡ ማ ክ ራ ፡ ኻ የ ሁ ፡ ም ሆ ን ም ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡
ይ ሳ ና ፡ ሂ ደ ለ ን ። ዘ ሬ ፣ ፓ ሮ ቁ ኔ ፡ ው ሂ ፡ ኽ ዋ ፡ መ ኔ ሣ ኡ ፡ ነ ው ።
ሳ ፌ ር ፡ ል ማ ን ሣ ች ፡ ግ ን ዘ ዘ ፡ ኣ ነ ሠ ኝ ፡ ኡ ነ ክ ም ፡ ጌ ታ ሮ ፡
ኣ ረ ይ ኪ ። ከ ባ ህ ር ፡ ዘ ዘ ፡ ሱ ቀ መ ሳ ን ፡ ኻ ነ ሩ ፡ ሆ ኔ ፡
ክ ፉ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ኔ ሠ ። ኣ ይ ራ ም ን ፡ ኣ ሂ ራ ም ን ። ደ ኽ ዝ ማ ች ፡
መ ኩ ን ን ፡ ል ኡ ነ ሳ ሊ ስ ፡ ዘ ማ ን ኪ ር ፡ ከ ዘ ይ ላ ፡ ፊ መ ሱ ፡
ኢ ል ሣ ፡ ኣ ይ ራ ፡ ገ ሪ ራ ች ፡ ሂ ዘ ን ኪ ዘ ፡ ይ ላ ኩ ል ኝ ።
ያ ጣ ል ያ ኖ ች ፡ መ ደ ፡ ሰ ጋ ኔ ይ ቲ ፡ መ ለ ሱ ና ፡ በ ዝ ዙ ፡ ኮ መ ጡ ፡
ይ ይ መ ጽ ደ ር ፡ ጦ ሣ ። ኣ ሁ ን ም ፡ መ መ ላ ሳ ኽ ፡ ኻ ፊ ኩ መ ቅ ም ፡
ኣ ይ ቶ ሙ ም ፡ ይ መ ለ ስ ለ ኛ ል ። ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ም ኑ ል ክ ፡ ከ ደ ፡ ና ፡
ይ ረ ጅ ና ል ፡ ደ መ ራ ሉ ። ኣ ቶ ፡ ኣ ዓ ኮ ኑ ሊ ፡ ኣ ገ ራ ቹ ፡ ደ ረ ሰ ።

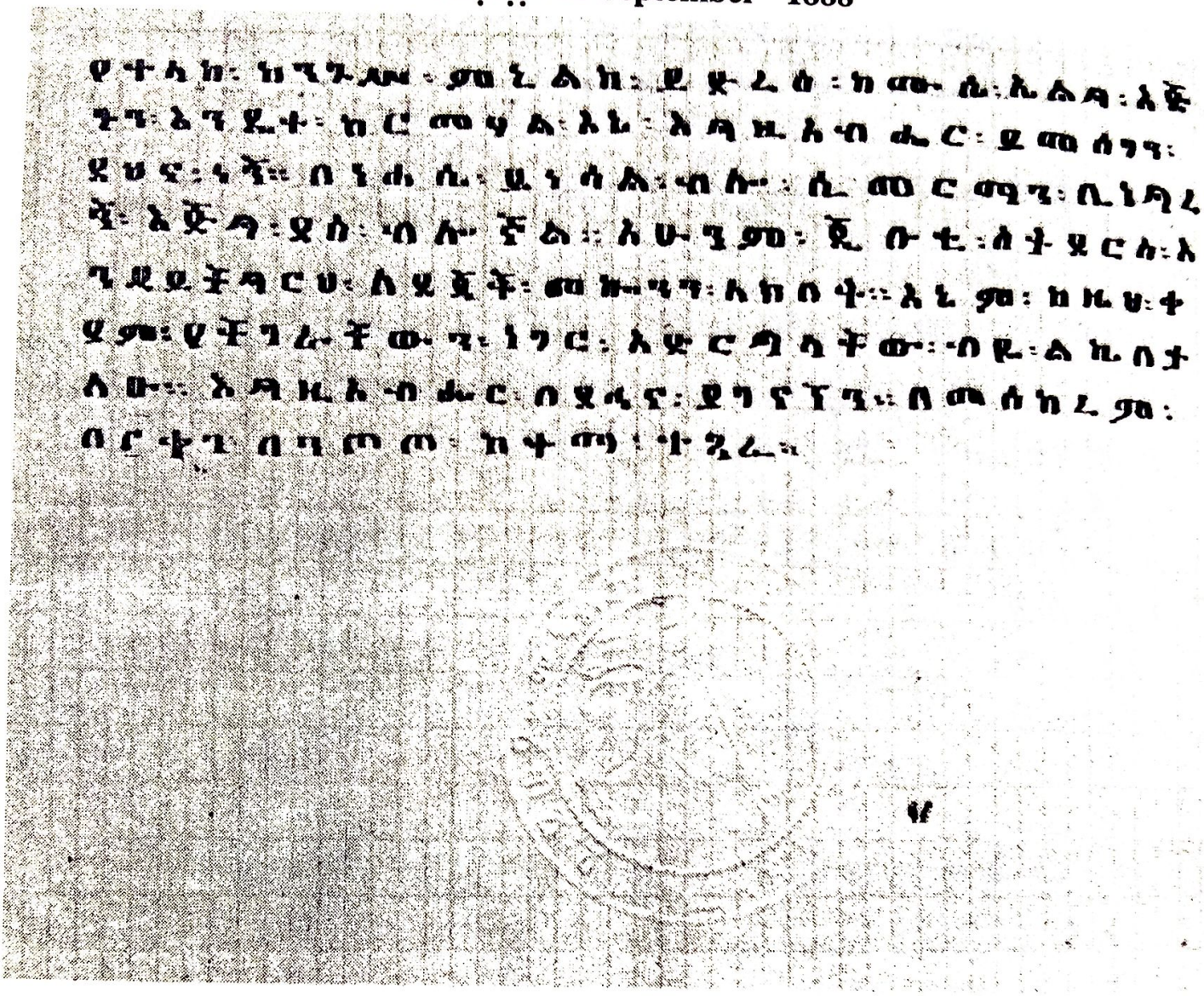


019. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Alfred Ilg
Zeila 6 September "1888"

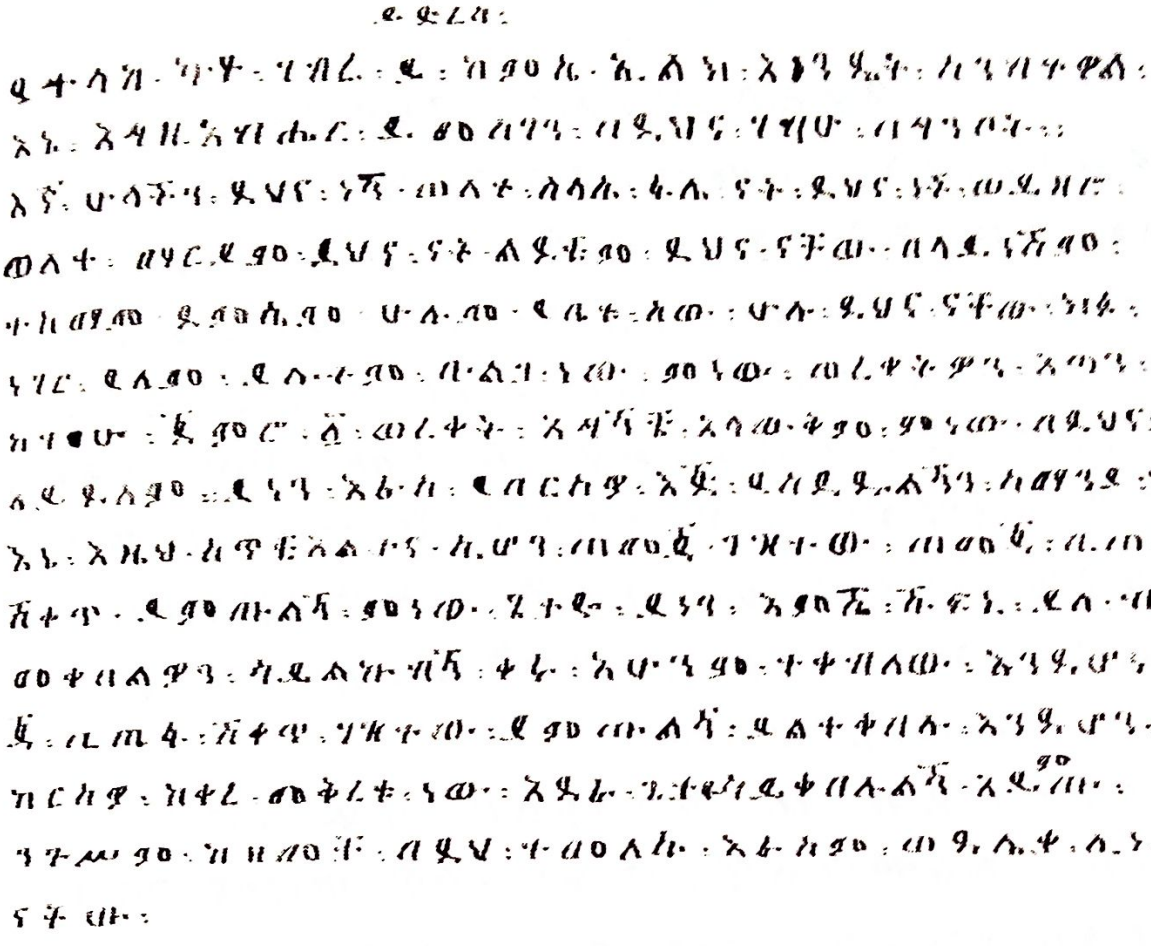
020. Servants to Alfred Ilg
"Zeila" 7 September 1888



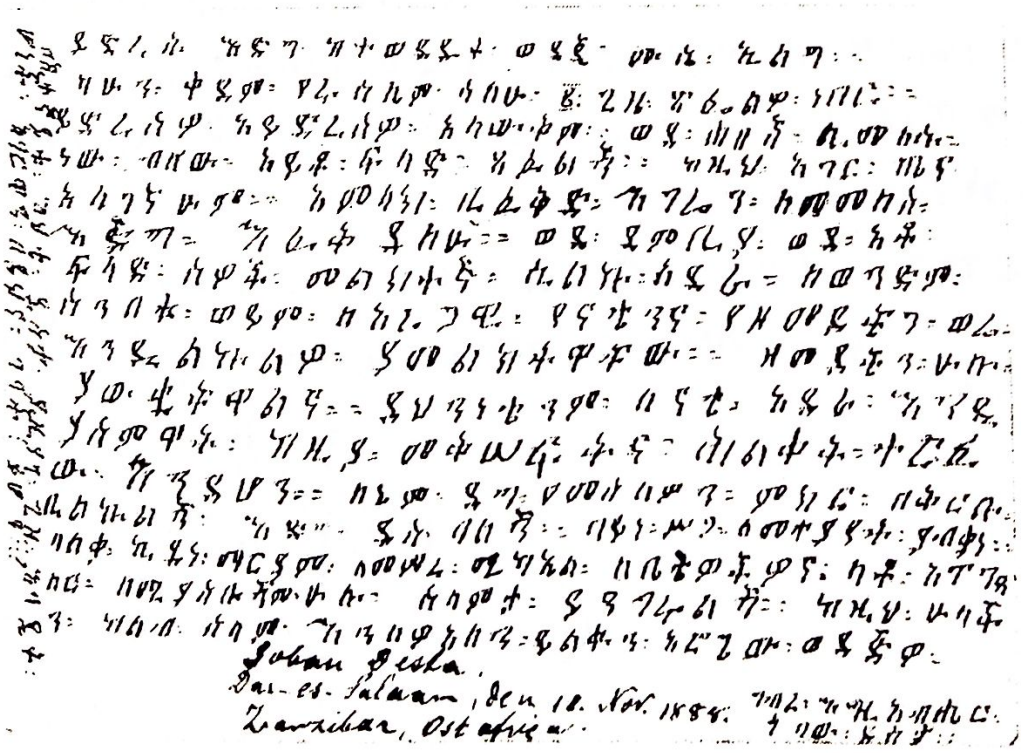
021. Negus Menilek to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 12 September "1888"



022. Gabrē to Alfred Ilg
"... September[?] 1888"



023. Gabra Egzi^{c}abḥēr Gobbāw Dastā to Alfred Ilg
Dar es Salaam 10 November 1888



024. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Ḥarargē 24 December "1888"

ሂዱሩስ ፡ ዝንጉሥ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡

ርዕይቱ ፡ ቁለምዮ ፡ ዘፍኖ ፡ ሂስጥልኝ ፡ ቢሆኑ ፡ ኣሃ ፡ ኣንሣለሁ ፡ እጅጉን ፡ ኣንሂሳ ፡ ነኣበጽ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ኣኔ ፣ በእሃዚአብሔር ፡ ኦሪትን ፡ በርስም ፣ ሙሰነ ፡ በይሳና ፡ ሃረር ፡ ገ ፡ ሂረስሁ ። ኣቃሳኝ ፡ ሂልሂሳ ፡ ሂሮስ ፡ ኣን ፡ ሃረር ፡ ገ ፡ ልሂ ፡ ስ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ሥሉ ፡ ጠይ ፣ ንጉሥ ፡ ኣንሣለሁ ፡ ቢሂ ፡ ኣበር ፡ ኣቶ ፡ ሥስጣ ፡ ሃይኩ ፡ መንሃኑ ፡ ኣሃስሀሂያ ፡ ቢሉኝ ፡ ሥኦኃርሂለሁ ።

ኣረር ፡ በኩል ፡ ሀሰኣንሂ ፡ ሃንኝሁ ፡ ኣኣሂ ፡ ሆኣ ፡ ኣረር ፡ በሥ·ል ፡ ኣሀሂለሁ ።

የኣንጉሥ ፡ ሃ·በዲቢ ፡ ኣገኝሃለሁ ፡ ቢዊ ፡ ኣበር ፡ ወሰንጋ ፡ ኣልወጣልኝ ፡ ቢሉኝ ፡ ኣቶ ፡ ሥስጣ ፡ ኣዩሃ ፡ ኣለኣንሁ ። ኣቃኦኝ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ላም ፡ ሥስጣ ፡ ኣረቀባለሁ ፡ ኣንጉሥ ፡ ኣንዱ ፡ ፈቀዱ ፡ ይዘሉ ። መንም ፡ ኣንዱ ፡ ኣቢ በላሽ ፡ ኣኣሂ ፡ ኣቤሰበር ፡ በጠም ፡ ኣሂሉ ፡ ዲበሉ ። ሠረ ፡ ልጦሴ ፡ ጺም·ርወ ፡ ጸዲሃለሁ ። ኣርዳች ፡ በጠም ፡ ኣላገኝሁም ፡ ሰለዚህ ፡ ኣርቂት ፡ ሲገኝ ፡ ሂብዲቢ ፡ ኣልክበሞ ኣለሁ ።

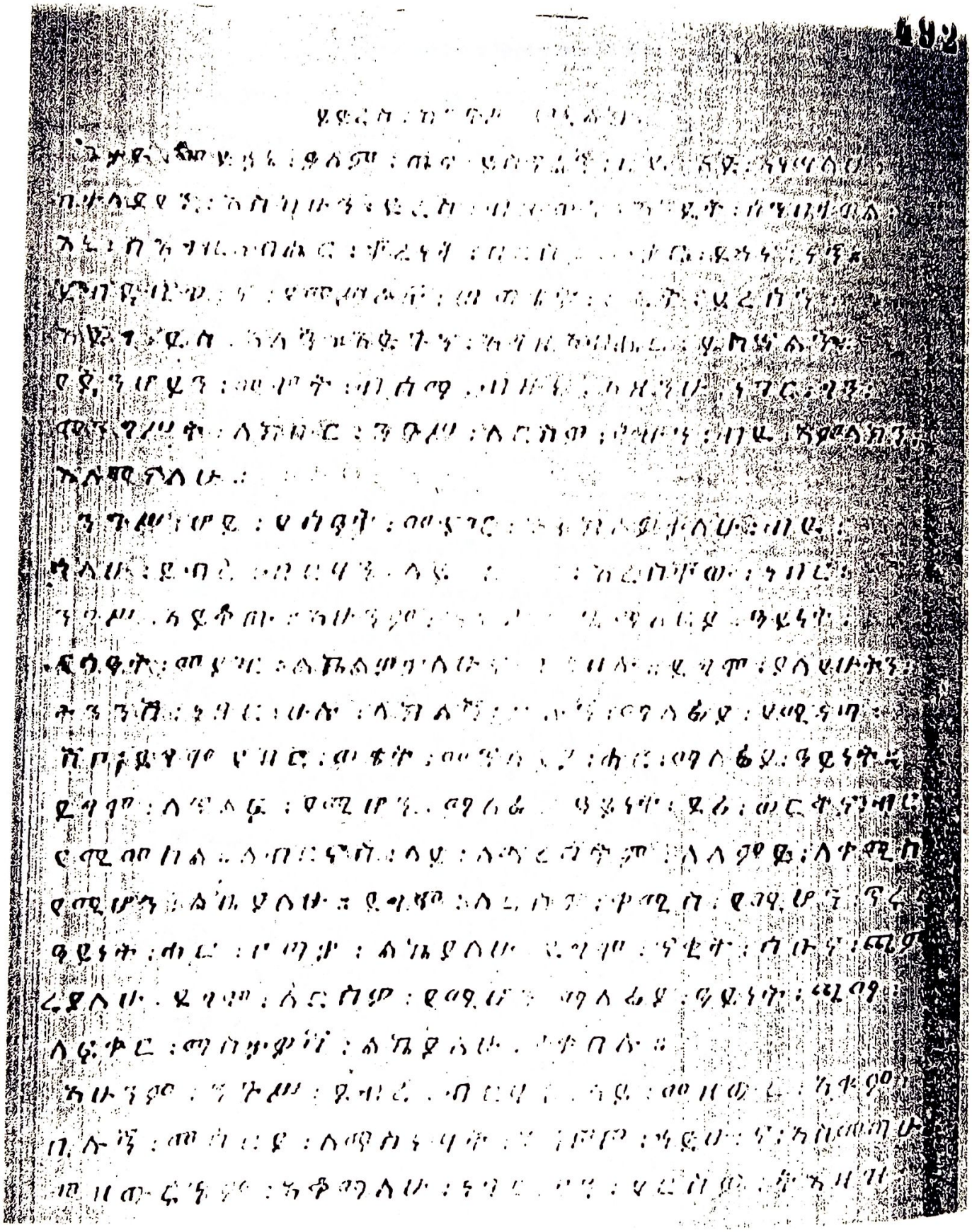
ሃረርገ ፡ በሥሀስ ፡ በ፲ጌቱኣ ፡ ቱሽሌ

የኣንጉሥ ፡ ሎሌ ፡ መ·ሴ ፡ ኢልዳ ።

Alfred Ilg

025. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
"Ankobar" 31 March "1889"

026. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Ankobar 18 April "1889"



ፍየል

ጸሐፍ ፡ አቋራ ፡ እንሺ ፡ ይመጽፉል ፡ በፎ ፡ ካይዩ ለዓሰ ። ወመሸር ያውነ ፡ ሙሴ ፡ ጸጋው ርዓፃ ፡ እንሠሙ ፡ ሆነ ለ ፡ እነ ነ ፡ ወመዘውረ ፡ ዩ ለበረ ፡ ብርሃ ፡ ሆነ ነ ። እንጅ ፡ ተኒሸ ፡ ነግር ፡ መሰ ርሃ ፡ ቢሎ ግር ፡ አይባችልኝ ። ነ ጭሥ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ይቀመ ፡ የ ካር ቱሸ ነ ፡ ሥራ ፡ እማሌ ፡ ነ ፡ እማሌ ፡ ሂማር ፡ ሰለስው ፡ ካለ ሉን ። ለሁንዓሰ ፡ አገሌ ፡ እሳሌ ፡ ሁሁን ፡ ለለ ፡ ኦለ ሥለኝ ።

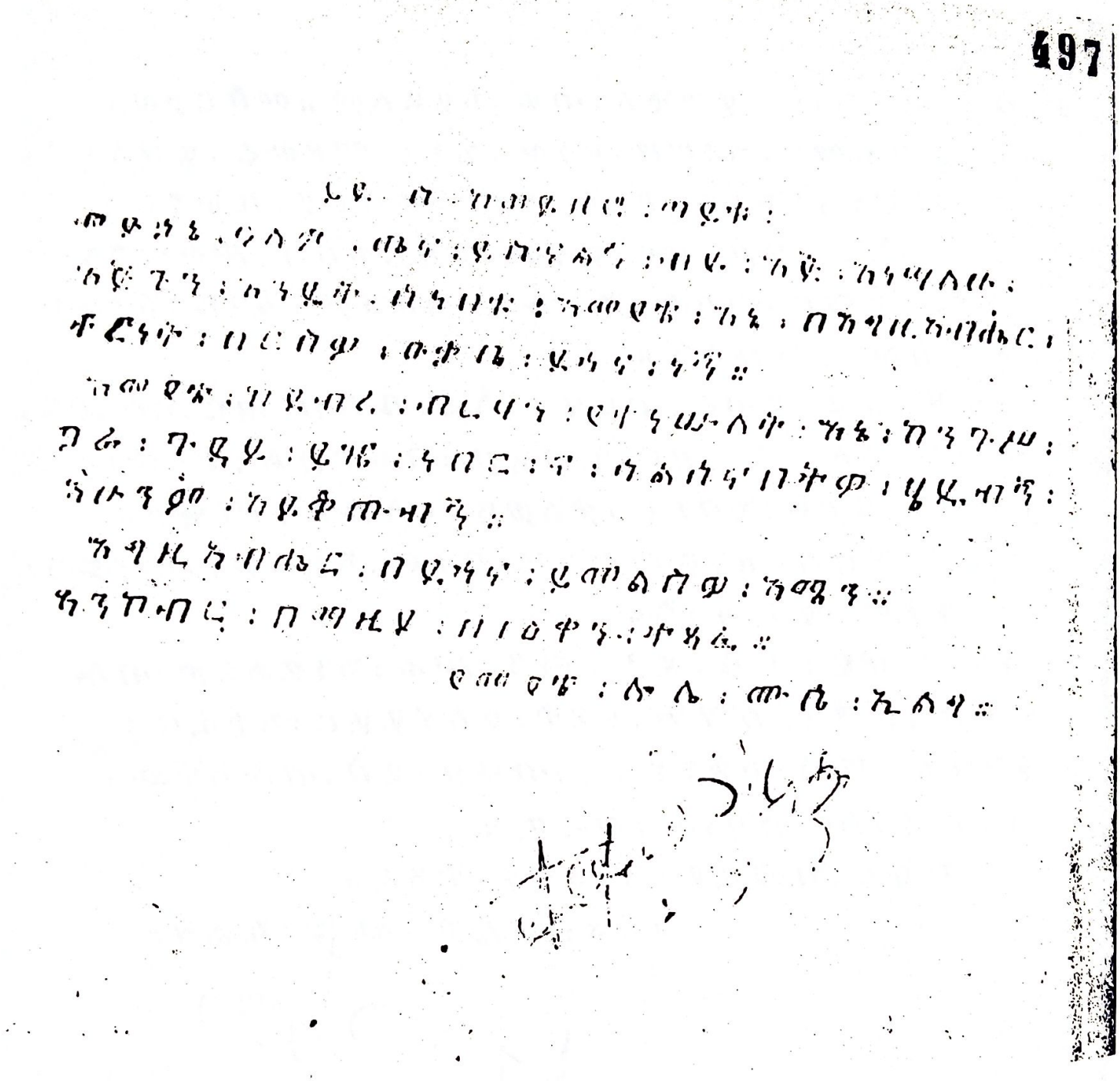
ንጉሥ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ይለበረ ፡ ለር ሃን ፡ ላሂ ፡ ጌሽነ ፡ ብር ፡ ነገሐሬርሬ ፡ ቀቀ በል ፡ በለው ኝ ፡ ነ በር ፡ ይብሂ ለ ፡ ሳልቀ በ ል ፡ ቁረሁ ። ለራንዓሰ ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ እባክህ ፡ ቃልዉን ፡ ይላኩልኝ ፡ ኖቂሎ ፡ ዘሆነ ፡ ኖርስ ፡ እንይ ፡ ጉ ንገለ ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ ካይራውን ፡ ካይራውነ ፡ ላለ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ማነ ፡ ላለኝ ።

ንጉሥ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ሙሴ ፡ አ ጋ ፣ ማን ፡ ለሠራ ፡ እንይ ፡ ልፈታ ፡ ብለ ፡ ፍሙሴ ፡ ደሞ ነ ፡ ሸ ሸጉ ፡ ኑ ፡ ሞ ፡ የ ስነ ሃ ሁ ር ፡ አቂ ፈ ር ፡ ያግባ ል ። ጋሙ ሴ ፡ አ ጅ ን ሃ ነ ር ፡ በ ዙ ሃ ፡ ይ ለ ፡ ብ ለ ፡ አነ ቦ ው ፡ ነ ጭ ለ ነ ፡ ነ ፍ ሮ ስ ግ ነ ው ፡ ወ ራ ይ ። ።

አንጦ በ ረ ፡ በ ሳ ዘ ረ ያ ፡ በ ፅ ሞ ነ ፡ ሥ አ ል ።

ይ ለ ል ፡ ለ ሌ ዎ ፡ ሙ ሃ ፡ ኪ ል ላ ።

027. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 18 April "1889"

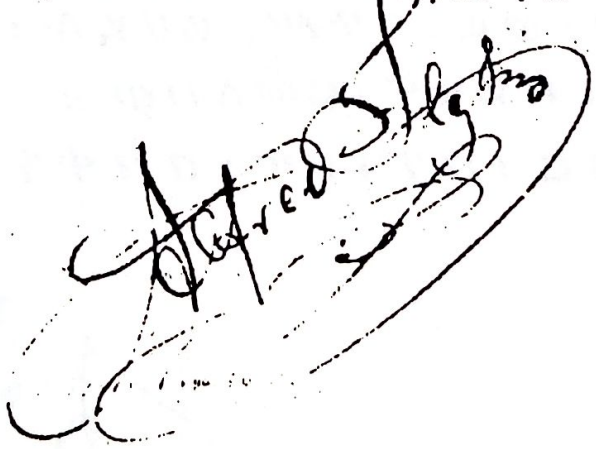


028. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
Ankobar 8 May "1889"

ቁጡረስ ፡ ካጣ ታኳ ን ፣

ሰጠኾ ፣ መዋሣወስ ፡ መ ሃ ፡ ኃ ኔ ፡ ቁላም ፡ ወአ ፣ ፡ ቂ ስ ጭ ል ኝ ፣ ዚ ሮ ፡
ኣ ቹ ፡ አ ነ ሣ ለ ሁ ፣ ን ኟ ን ፡ አ ን ሃ ዴ ት ፡ ሰ ሃ ለ ው ፡ አ ነ ጭ ፡ ሠ ሂ ፡
ኣ ኔ ፡ አ ሃ ዚ አ ብ ዘ ሰ ዴ ር ፡ ቂ መ ለ ጣ ኃ ፡ ደ ሃ ና ፡ ኔ ኝ ።
ደ ዘ ሂ ዜ መ ፡ ሂ ረ ስ ኝ ፡ አ ኟ ጉ ኅ ፡ አ ሃ ዚ አ ብ ዘ ሰ ዴ ር ፡ ቂ ስ ጭ ል ኝ ።
ኣ ኔ ፡ የ ም ቅ ጣ ለ ን ፡ ኑ ን ር ፡ የ ሉ ኝ ም ፣ ሳ ለ ኑ ት ፡ ኣ ሪ ስ ም ፡ ኣ ን ፡ ሃ
ሁ ቃ ኝ ሁ ዋ ል ፡ ለ ዩ ፡ አ ን ዘ ኜ ፡ ኑ ለ ር ሁ ፡ አ ሁ ን ፡ ደ ዘ ሂ ቤ ም ን ፡
ሰ ዪ ፡ ሂ ስ ፡ ዘ ለ ፡ ኛ ል ።
የ ኣ ቃ ለ ን ፡ ዋ ን ፡ ሠ ሉ ፡ ለ ሂ ለ ሂ ዜ ፡ ኣ ሂ ረ ጌ ፡ ል ኔ ቀ ለ ሁ ፡
ኖ ፣ ኣ ር ስ ም ፡ ይ ወ ት ። ዋ ን ለ ሰ ም ፡ በ ሰ ነ ረ ፡ ፣ አ ን ሃ ፡ ሃ ገ ዘ ለ ት
ኑ ሉ ፣ ኣ ን ሺ ፡ አ ን ሂ ፡ ኣ ነ ዚ ሃ ፡ ሓ ገ ር ፡ ዋ ን ፡ አ ሂ ሂ ለ ም ሃ
ኣ ሁ ን ፣ ወ ሂ ፡ አ ር ስ ም ፡ ኑ ን ይ ሉ ለ ሮ ጣ ፡ ኑ ነ ለ ሠ ፡ ለ በ ር ቱ ፡ ለ ሠ ራ ፡
ኣ ገ ዘ ለ ሰ ኛ ል ። ለ ሠ ራ ዊ ፡ ነ ዚ አ ል ቅ ፡ ለ ወ ጥ ቹ ፡ አ ሂ ዋ ለ ሁ ።
አ ሃ ዚ አ ብ ሐ ር ፡ በ ይ ሃ ና ፡ ለ ሰ ሮ ባ ኑ ኛ ት ፡ ደ በ ቃ ን ። አ ሜ ን ።
ኣ ን አ በ በ ር ፡ በ ዕ ቃ ን ፡ ግ ን በ ት ፡ ሓ ጸ ረ ።

ሂ ላ ል ፡ ሙ ኔ ፡ ን ፡ ል ሃ ።



Documents

029. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
Ankobar 11 May "1889"

29

የሠላስ ከ : ነ ሙሪ ል : ኢ ል ፣ : ሉ ድ ረ ስ : ነ ጠ ን ሥ ፣ ካ ቡ ኔ :
ማ ቴ ዎ ስ : ጳ ጳ ስ : መ ድ ኃ ኔ : ሳ ሉ ም : ለ ዘ ና : ዮ ስ ጣ ል ኛ : ዘ ሮ ፣
ከ ፎ : ኢ ኑ ሣ ለ ሁ : ከ ፎ ጉ ጣ ፣ ኢ ን ዲ ት ፣ ለ ነ ብ ቴ ፣ ከ ብ ቴ : ሆ ይ ፣
ከ ኔ : ኢ ፃ ዘ.ኣ ብ ሔ ር : ይ መ ስ ጎ ኔ : ደ ኣ ና ፣ ኑ ኛ ። ይ ብ ሂ ቡ ም ፣
ና : ሬ ይ ነ ጠ ላ ግ . ብ ር : ሙ ሉ ዘ ሃ ያ ለ ሁ ፣ ከ ኳ ኑ ኘ ፣ ኢ ፃ ዘ ኢ ብ
ሔ ር : ይ ለ ጥ ል ኛ ። ኔ ታ ም ቦ : ሳ ፃ ር : ፊ ታ ፃ ወ ስ : ተ ዘ ፣ : ሙ ሉ በ ል ሁ :
አ ጅ ጉ ን : ኢ ፃ ዘ.ኣ ብ ሔ ር : ይ ለ ና ለ ኛ ። ኢ ህ ው : ሱ ፕ ር : ሁ ሉ ፣
ጠ ብ ር : አ ደ ሬ ጌ : ለ አ ያ ለ ሁ ። ኢ ፄ ም : ዘ ረ ፣ ነ ፃ ረ : ሲ ፍ ጣ ፣
ያ ሣ ር : በ ቦ ያ ነ ጭ ፍ ራ ን ነ : ግ ዘ ሠ ላ ም ብ ር : ዘ ረ : ይ ጣ ል ሃ ኛ ፣
ገ ለ መ ጡ : ኢ ኳ ፃ : ረ ከ ሰ ። ኢ ህ ው : ዚ ረ ሲ ፣ ተ ሰ ጠ ረ : ኢ ሉ ኛ :
ይ ማ ለ ፍ ያ : ዚ ረ ሲ ፣ ል ን ሄ ያ ለ ሁ ።
ኢ ሁ ን ም : መ ፎ : ን ጉ ሥ : ሂ ሀ ኒ ሉ : ኢ ሉ ኛ ። ኢ ፃ ዘ.ኢ ብ ሔ ር ፣
ይ ሸ ኛ ው : በ ሂ ኔ ና : ይ መ ለ ሰ ነ ው ።
ኢ ን ነ ጠ ብ ር : በ ግ ኔ ነ ሣ : በ ወ ቃ ኔ : ዳ ኻ ፅ ሁ

030. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 1 June "1889"

የድረስ ፡ክንጉሠ ንግሥኑ ፡ምኒልክ ፡

መድኃኔ ፡ዓለም ፡ጤና ፡ይስጥልኝ ፡ዘር ፡ኩቼ ፡ኩሩሥላሴ ፡

ኩፎጉን ፡ኩንዲኑ ፡ሰኑበጭ ፡ኩኔ ፡"ኩዓዚኩበሬር ፡ይመስገን ፡

ደሓና ፡ነኝ ። ንጉሥ ፡ዙንሰ ፡ሃይሕዋናኑና ፡ራስ ፡ወሚካኤል ፡

ገቡ ፡የጂሉ ፡ወረ ፡ሁበሰዓ ፡ዘበሉሃ ፡ደስ ፡ኩለኝ ፡ኩንኪን ፡

ደስ ፡ኩለው ፡ኺጉሆኝ ።

ከዚህ ፡ቀደም ፡ደዝዘዚቤ ፡ልኬ ፡ነበር ፡ምላሽ ፡ኩልጠጣልኝም ፡

መሰርያው ፡ዙጋጥም ፡ዓለቋ ፡ነው ፡ኩንግዲህ ፡ክኛቂኑ ፡

ቃን፡በኒላ ፡ኸርሱሽ ፡ምሥራችኑ ፡ኩንኺጥራሉን ።

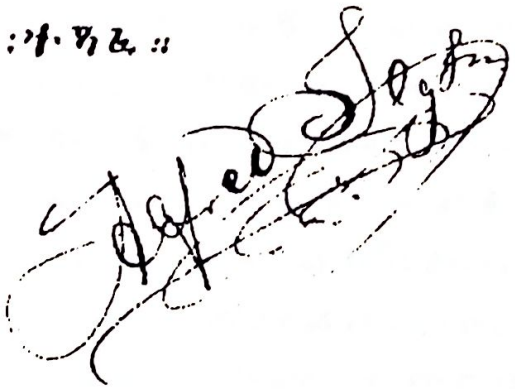
ደኺዝወኞ ፡መጡን ፡ኩሽከርህን ፡ሰዲድና ፡ንጉሥ ፡

የሰጡህን ፡ዘር ፡ኩስወሰድ ፡ዘገሱኛልና ፡ኩህው ፡መስዲዲ ፡ነው ።

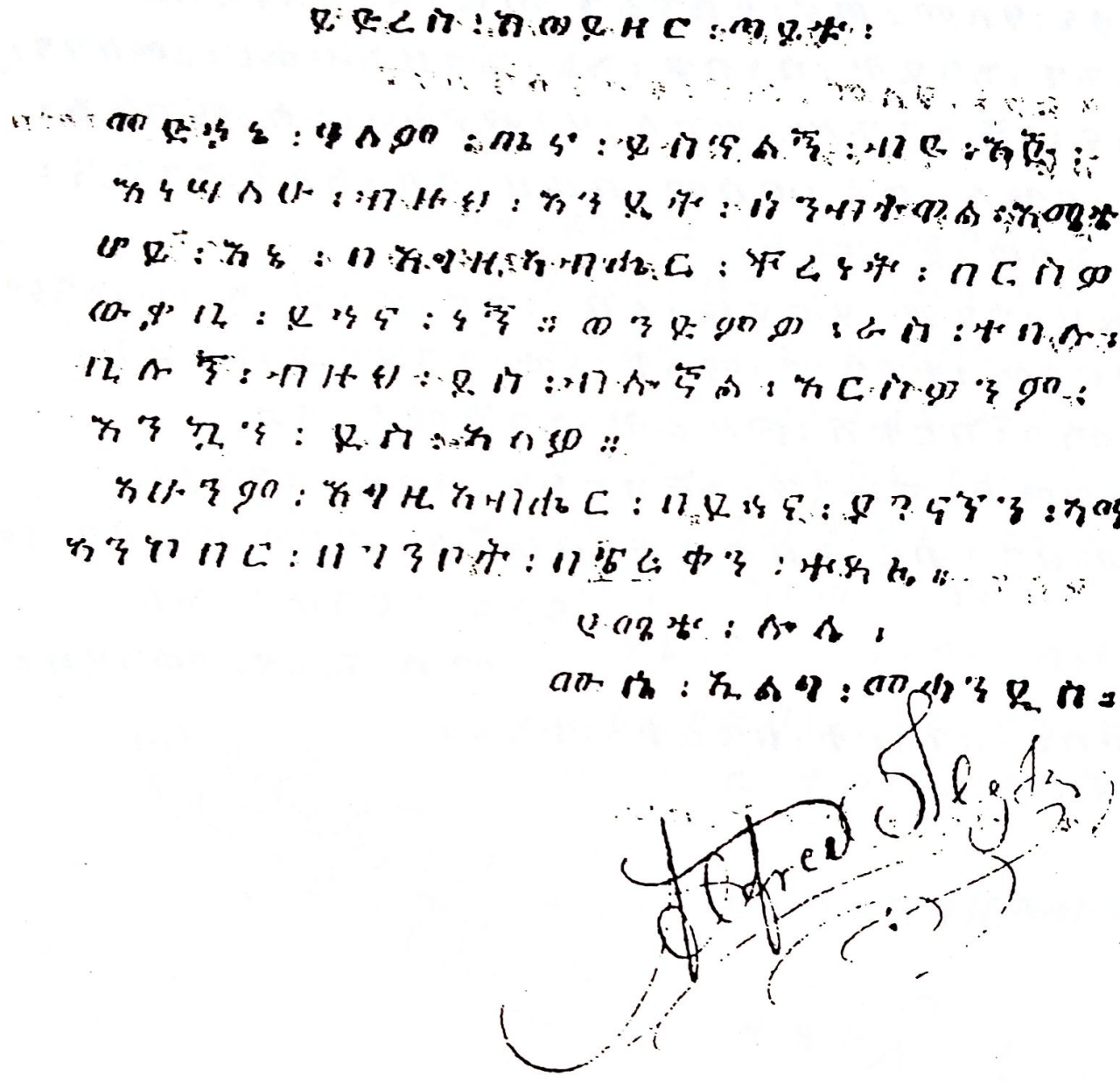
ደነል ፡የኺንሆዲ ፡ሱሌ ፡

ጦሩሌ ፡ኔ፣ልዋ ፡መሐንዲነር

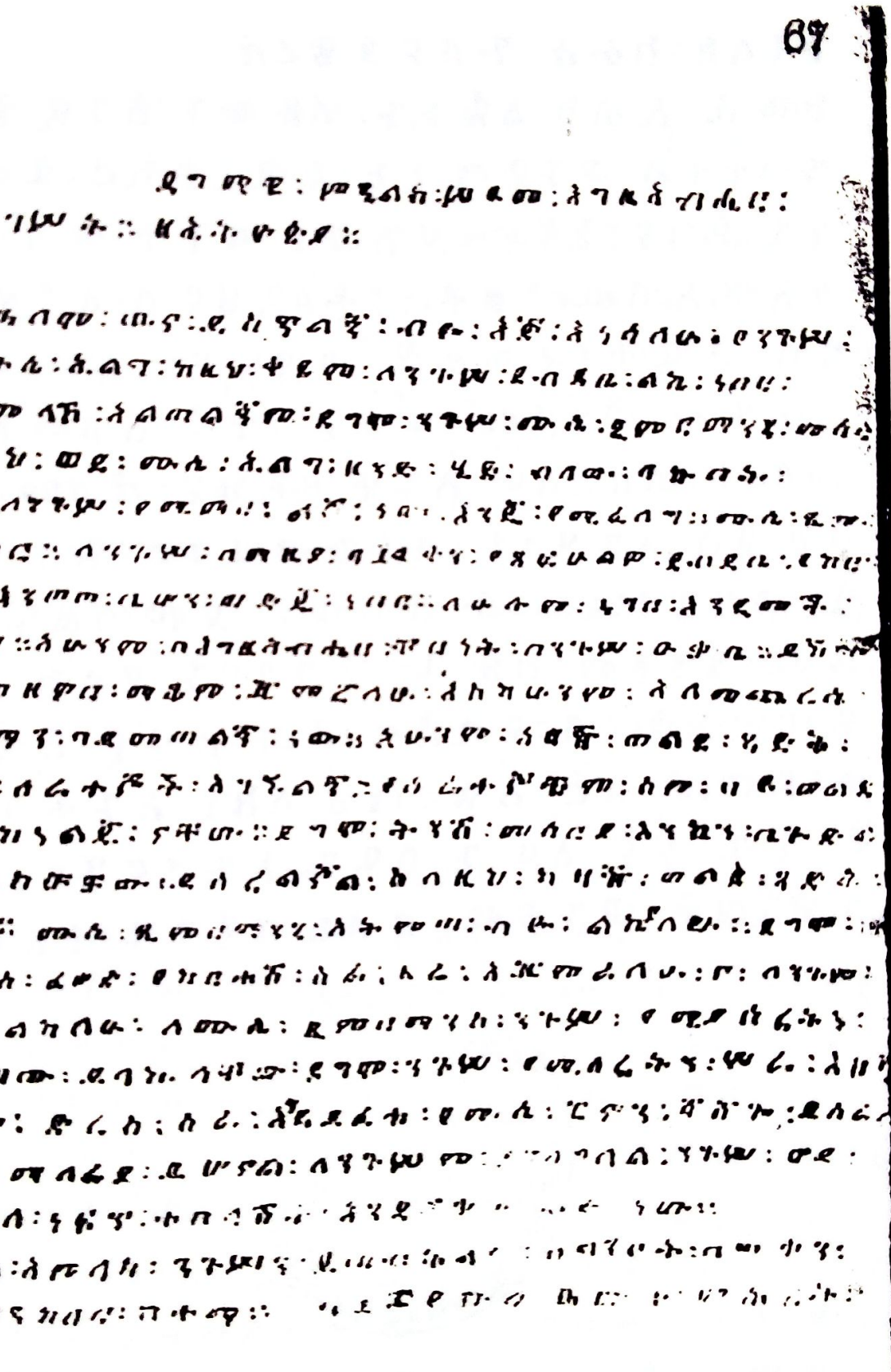
ኩንኮበር ፡በገነናኑ ፡በኽሬቃን ፡ኑኩሌ ።



031. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 1 June 1889

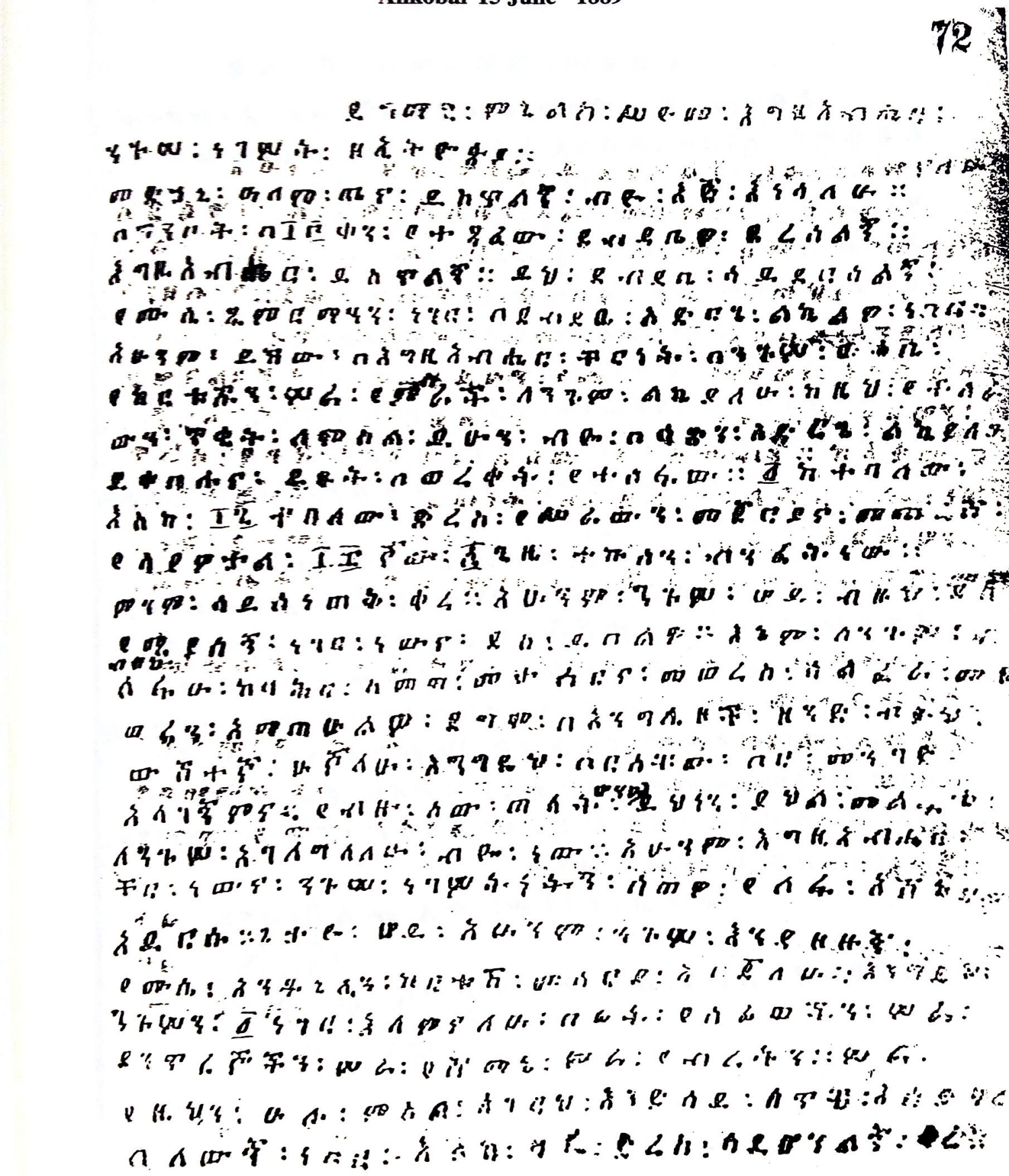


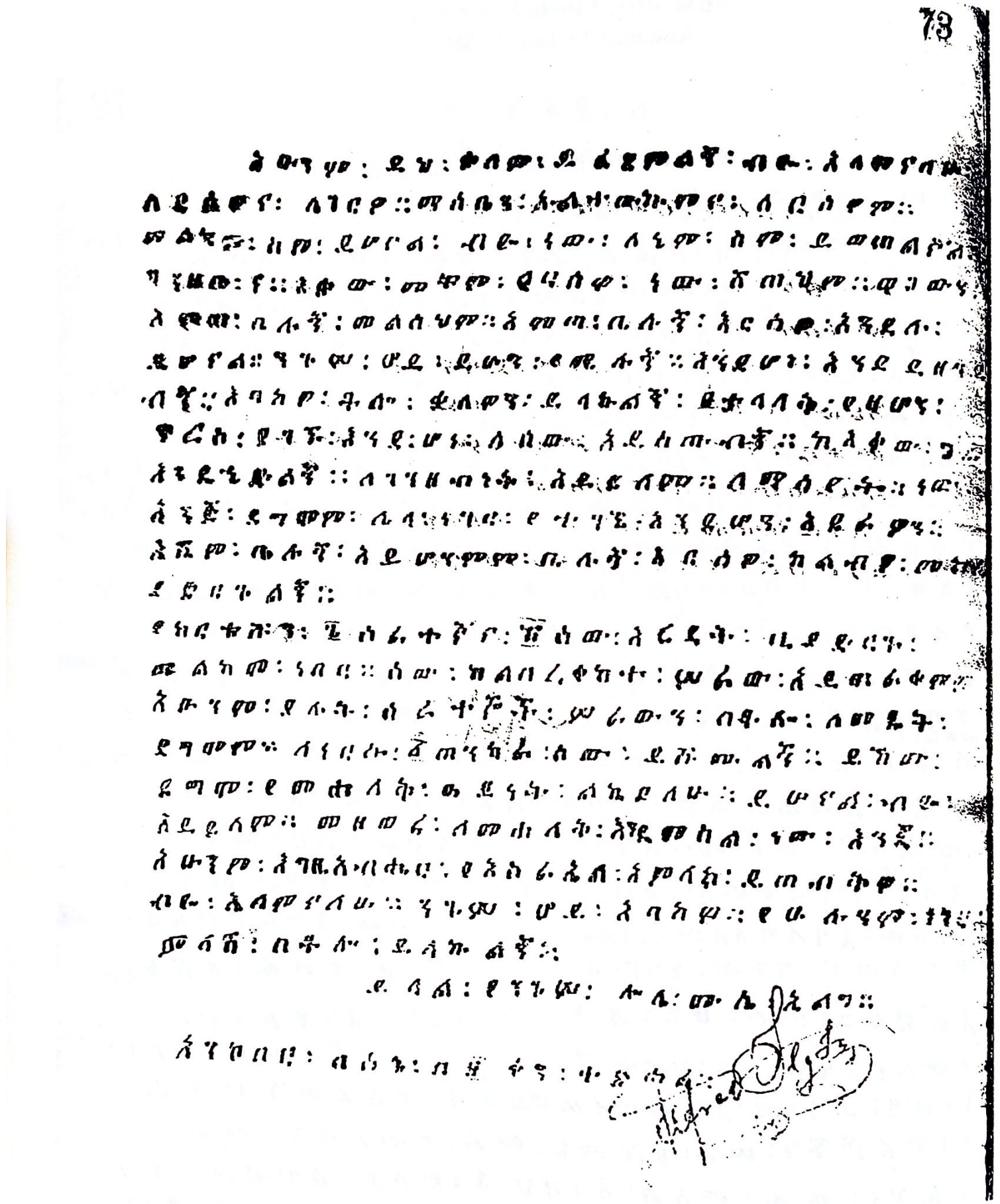
032. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 6 June 1889



033. Gobanā Dāčč̣i to Alfred Ilg
... 10 June "1889"

034. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 15 June "1889"



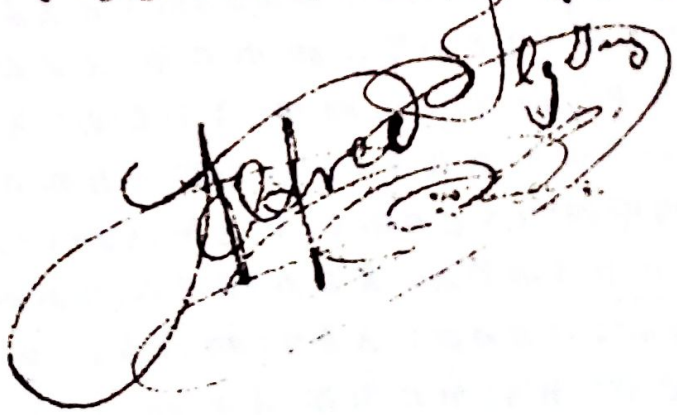


035. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 16 June "1889"

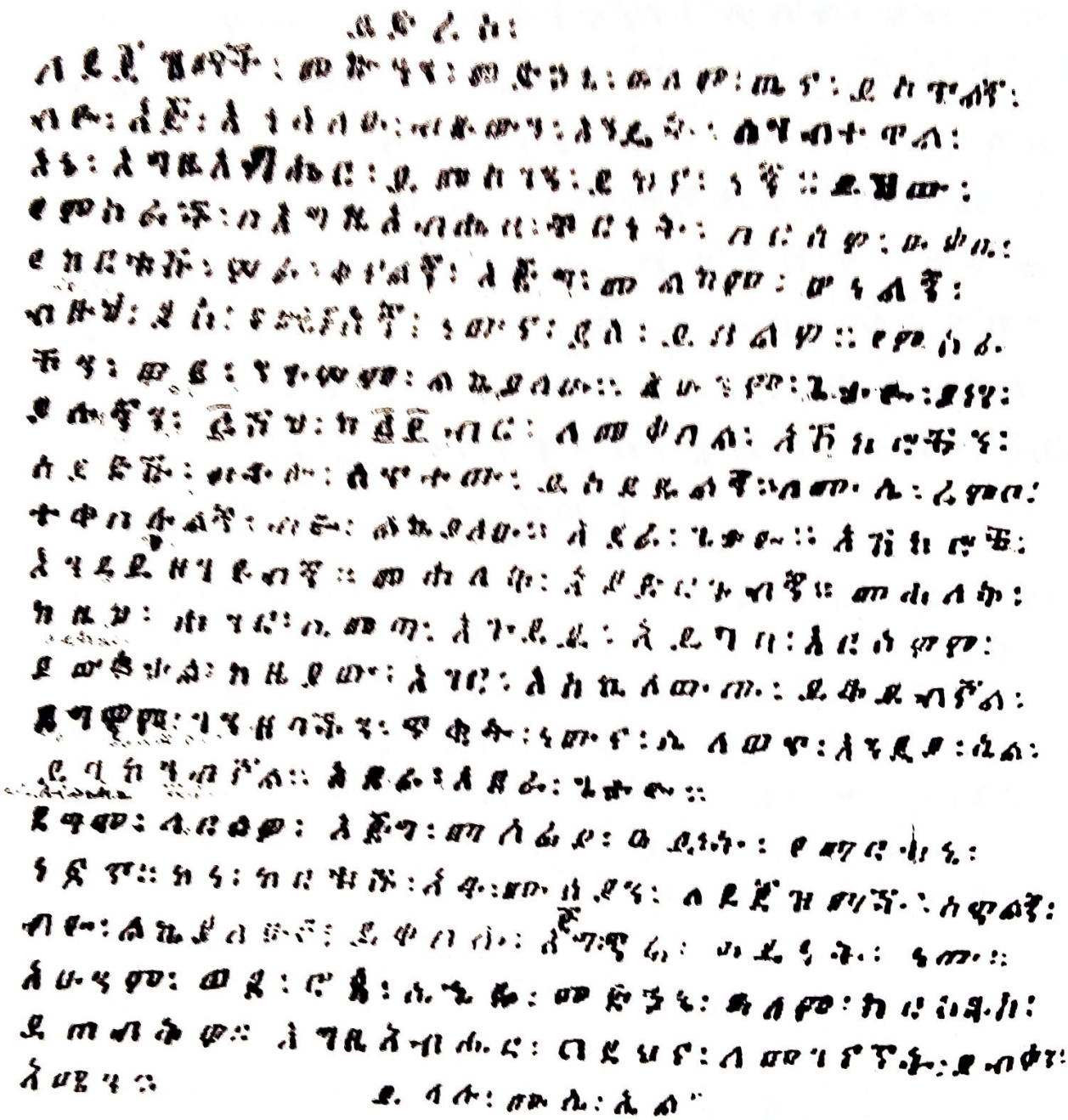
ቁድረስ ፡ ከወዲዘር ፡ ጣይቱ ፡

መድኃኔ ፡ ቀለም ፡ ጠና ፡ ይሰናልኝ ፡ ዛሮ ፡ ከድ ።
ከነሠሶሁ ፡ ከድጉን ፡ ከንዲጭ ፡ ስነገሮ ፡ ኛኤ ፡
በኽዲዘ አብዘር ፡ ቸረነሥ ፡ ደሳና ፡ ናኝ ።
አህመ ፡ ሰኽአዛዲ ከባዝዘር ፡ ፌቃድ ፡ በጣቴ ።
ውቃቤ ፡ ፕ ከ ር ሙ ጠ ፡ ሥራ ፡ የምክራኝ ፡ ሰባጄ ፡
ለኪድለሁ ፡ ደስ ፡ ይበሉ ።
አባዲ አብዘር ፡ ጣይሳናኑ ደግኙን ፡ ኣማኔ ።
አንክ ሽር ፡ በስ ፡ በፓኝ ፡ ሙሳል ።

የማሚ ፡ ሉ ሲ ፡ ጣ.ነ



036. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Ankobar 16 June "1889"



037. Alfred Ilg to Gobanā Dāčč̣i
Ankobar 20 June "1889"

፸፱

የዛ ፡ ነ ኽ ፡ ክ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ል ፃ ፡ ሄ ዮ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ራ ስ ፡ ገ ቦ ና ፡
ለ ወ ጂ ነ ኔ ፡ ሳ ለ ያ ም ፡ ከ ኔ ና ፡ ደ ስ ተ ል ኝ ፡ ብ ዊ ፡ ኤ ጅ ፡ ኤ ሳ ፣
ለ ሠ ፡ ኣ ጅ ጉ ን ፡ ኣ ን ደ ት ፡ ስ ነ ሰ ባ ሥ ፡ ገ ሃ ዊ ፡ ሠ ያ ፡ ኣ ኔ ፡
በ ኣ ፃ ዘ ኣ ፦ በ ሬ ር ፡ ሸ ር ሳ ት ፡ ፦ ብ ር ስ ያ ፡ ወ ቃ ቢ ፡ ደ ሳ ና ፡
ነ ኝ ። ደ ፦ ብ ዲ ቢ ያ ፡ ዱ ረ ስ ኝ ፡ ኣ ፃ ዘ ኣ ፦ በ ል ሬ ር ፡ ይ ስ ፍ ል ኝ ፡
ኣ ን ኳ ን ፡ በ ደ ሳ ና ፡ ግ ቡ ፡ ኣ ን ኢ ን ፡ የ ዮ ን ያ ። ክ ባ ህ ር ፡
ል ራ ስ ፡ ደ ወ በ ኩ ፡ መ ሰ ር ደ ፡ ሁ ሉ ን ም ፡ ኣ ረ ቁ ፦ ብ ሁ ፡
ና ፡ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ያ ሙ ር ማ ን ፡ ኣ ቁ መ ል ኝ ፡ ፦ ብ ዊ ፡ ል ክ ደ ለ ሁ ።
ደ ስ ። ይ በ ለ ያ ፡ ግ ሃ ዊ ። ኣ ኔ ፡ ኣ ሁ ን ፡ ኣ ን ደ ያ ል መ ጣ ፡ ኣ ሀ ው ፡
የ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ሠ ራ ፡ ክ ረ ም ት ፡ ሳ ይ ዩ ር ስ ፡ ኣ ን ዲ ፡ ደ ል ቅ ፣ ኝ ።
ሂ መ ስ ራ ኹ ፡ ገ ሃ ዊ ፡ የ ካ ር ዛ ሽ ፡ ለ ሠ ራ ፡ ኣ ሸ ግ ፡ ፍ ሳ ና ፡ ሆ ነ
ል ኝ ። ደ ስ ፡ ይ በ ለ ያ ። ካ ኖ ዛ ማ ቸ ፡ ዲ ም ር ቴ ፡ ሁ ለ ን ም ፡ ደ ፈ ሬ ው ት ቀ ለ ቱ
ለ ሙ ሴ ፡ ጂ ና ፡ ሳ ይ ሀ ይ ፡ ቱ ር ክ ን ፡ ደ ለ ው ን ፡ የ ሸ ስ ቦ ፡ ካ ር ዙ ሽ ፡
ሸ ቅ ል ኝ ፡ በ ሉ ሮ ፊ ፡ ኣ ባ ክ ያ ፡ ሩ ቃ ይ ፡ ል ም ወ ስ ጅ ፡ ይ ስ ጡ ኝ ።
ደ ላ ም ፡ ሻ ስ ቦ ፡ ና ፎ ት ፡ የ ሶ ና ይ ር ፡ ኣ ሂ ቆ ር ፡ ኣ ገ ባ ቹ ፡
ሸ ሸ ፡ በ ለ ሠ ል ፡ ኣ ሁ ን ም ፡ ኚ ና ፎ ት ፡ ል ገ ን ዘ ባ ቹ ን ፡ ኣ ን ቃ
በ ላ ለ ን ፡ ኣ ሉ ፡ ወ ይ ዘ ሮ ፡ ኣ የ ለ ኝ ። ኣ ሰ ክ ያ ፡ ሂ ቖ ረ ው ን ፡
ል ሙ ሴ ፡ ሰ ላ ሙ ረ ፡ ኣ ዥ ኦ ለ ክ ሉ ። ።
ክ ረ ም ት ፡ ሳ ይ ዩ ር ስ ፡ ሰ ሠ ቹ ፡ ሁ ሉ ን ም ፡ ኑ ሃ ር ፡ ኣ ን
ፍ ሬ ው ታ ለ ን ፡ ግ ሃ ዊ ። ።

ኣ ፃ ዘ ኣ ፦ በ ሬ ር ፡ በ ይ ሳ ና ፡ ደ ግ ኑ ን ፡
ኣ ን ኮ በ ር ፡ በ ሰ ኔ ፡ በ ፲ ፱ ቀ ን ፡ ፡ ፹ ፰ ዓ ፡ ።

038. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 26 June "1889"

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ደጣዓያ ው ፡ ም ኒ ሊክ ፡ ሥ ዊ መ ፡ ኽ ፃ ረ ኣ ብ ዘ ክ ር ፡ ን ጉ ሠ ፡
ነ ገ ሥ ት ፡ ዘ ኤ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፡
መ ዚ ኔ ፡ ዓ ለ ም ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ደ ስ ጥ ለ ኝ ፡ ዝ ው ፡ ኣ ቺ ፡ ኣ ነ ሣ ለ ሁ ።
በ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ሃ ብ ት ፡ ዐ ለ ን ሳ ኤ ሊ ፡ የ ስ ና ድ ር ፡ ካ ር ኩ ሽ ፡ መ ሳ ር ያ ፡
ሰ ር ዛ ን ፡ ኣ ሀ ው ፡ ደ ል ዋ ፡ ኣ በ ድ ት ኒ ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ል ክ
ደ ለ ሁ ፡ መ ስ ል ፡ ደ ሁ ን ፡ ዝ ው ፡ ሩ ው ። ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ደ ዌ ት ።
ኣ ሁ ን ም ፡ የ መ ስ ር ያ ፡ ቦ ታ ፡ ቭ ን ሮ ና ል ፡ ዋ ሽ ፡ ቄ ሁ ን ፡
ኣ ሉ ፡ ኣ ዛ ሽ ። ዋ ሽ ፡ ል ሥ ራ ፡ ኣ ቲ መ ቭ ም ፡ በ ደ ሆ ን ፡ መ ቅ ፡
መ ድ ር ፡ ቁ ም ዝ ን ፡ ደ ሠ ራ ፡ ባ ደ ሆ ን ፡ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ደ ሳ ና ፡ ቦ ታ ፡
ደ ስ ፈ ለ ጉ ፡ ከ ነ ል ፡ ኣ ን ድ ፡ ኣ ደ ር ቅ ። ል ሥ ራ ሉ ኛ ፡ ኣ ን ድ ፡
ደ መ ቭ ። ።
የ ኣ ን ፍ ሬ ቹ ፡ ሥ ራ ፡ ሙ ሴ ፡ ጴ ጥ ሮ ስ ፡ መ ለ ፍ ደ ፡ ኣ ደ ረ ጉ ፡
ጩ ኬ ሪ ኑ ል ኛ ፡ ኣ ን ጥ ዊ ኒ ፡ ሠ ፓ ፡ ቴ ግ ኘ ፡ ል ሠ ደ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ኣ በ ን ክ ው ፡
ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ሆ ደ ፡ ለ ፈ ታ ቭ ፡ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ደ ው ፡ ቁ ላ ቹ ፡ ኦ በ ር ፡ ኣ ቺ ን ፡
ቭ ን ሮ ና ል ፡ ኣ ብ ሉ ኛ ል ።
በ ሰ ኔ ፡ በ ፊ ቃ ን ፡ የ ሞ ጻ ሬ ፡ ደ ብ ድ ቢ ው ፡ ድ ረ ሳ ኝ ፡ ፓ ፔ የ መ ዘ ው ር ፡
ክ ር ፡ ል ክ ደ ለ ሁ ፡ ና ፡ ሞ ቃ በ ሉ ።
ዝ ረ ቱ ን ፡ ዝ ገ ር ፡ ና ፡ ወ ር ቅ ፡ ሳ ደ ሳ ብ ፡ ሰ ጠ ኝ ፡ ደ ፡ ኣ ቺ ደ ፡
ኔ ቭ ፡ ፡ ፡

039. Alfred Zimmermann to Menilek II
Entoṭṭo 26 June "1889"

ደላማዊ ፡ ምኒ ሊልክ ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥታ ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ።

መድኃኔ ፡ ቅሉም ፡ በጌና ፡ ይነግሥልኝ ፡ ነው ፡ እኩይ ፡ አሳብህ ፡ አላውቅም።

የነገሡ ፡ ያህል ፡ ይነገይ ፡ ይረሱ ሐኝ ፡ እኩይ ጉን ፡ አሳዘንብሀር ፡

ይነግሥልኝ ። መንግሥትም ፡ አንደኋ ፡ አሳዘንብሀር ፡

አውሮፓ ፡ ና ፡ ሳነገሥ ፡ አንድ ፡ ይሁን ፡ አለመናለሁ።

የንጉሥ ፡ ነገሥት ፡

ምኒሊክ ፡ ጽፈንሎታል ።

አንኮበር ፡ ነሐሴ ፡ ነሻ ሳን ፡ ሣንጽፈ ።

040. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 27 June "1889"

ደላማዊ ፡ ምኒ ሊልክ ፡ ሥዩመ ፡ አላዘንብሀር ፡

ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ።

መድኃኔ ፡ ቅሉም ፡ በጌና ፡ ይነግሥልኝ ፡ ነው ፡ እኩይ ፡

አነሳሣለሁ ።

ንግሥናህ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ከሐረርጌ ፡ አታናስ ፡ ሬጋስ ፡ ሚገልፅ ፡

ልጅ ፡ ሥራ ፡ አፈላጋለሁ ፡ ብለህ ፡ ቢመጣ ፡ የንጉሥ ፡

ፈቃድ ፡ አስታጣኝ ፡ ይረሳል ፡ እኔ ፡ ጋ ፡ ይሠራ ፡ ነው ፡

አስቃያጭ ፡ አይሆንም ። እኩንም ፡ የአርባ ፡ ሥራ ፡ ይማራል ፡

ታስጋ ፡ ይላ ፡ ነው ፡ ይሄን ፡ ፍቅር ፡ ይጋራል ። ንጉሥ ፡ አንድ ፡

አውሮፓ ፡ ደረጉ ፡ ጌታ ፡

ይላል ፡ የንጉሥ ፡ ነገሥት ፡

ሉሌ ፡

ጽፈናል ፡ ምኒሊክ ። መሐንዲስ ።

አንኮበር ፡ ቢነሴ ፡ ነሻ ሳን ፡ ሣንጽፈ ።

041. Athanas Rigas to Menilek II
Ankobar 30 June "1889"

ዳግማዊ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡ ሥዩመ ፡ እግዚአብሔር ፡
ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ።
መድኃኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡ እጅ ፡
እነሣለሁ ።
ንጉሥነ ፡ እመኜ ፡ ክሳደ ርጌ ፡ ከግን ዞብ ፡ መሬውር ፡
ጋራ ፡ መጥቼ ፡ አንኮበር ፡ ገባሁ ። አሁንም ፡ እግርዎ ፡
መምጣቴ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ሥራ ፡ ይ ፡ ተጠናልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡ ነው ።
የንጉሥ ፡ ሬጅድ ፡ ሌግኝ ፡ ድረስ ፡ ከሀው ፡ ከመሴ ፡
ኢልግ ፡ ጋራ ፡ እሠራለሁ ።
አንኮበር ፡ በሰኔ ፡ በ፴ ፡ ሠጓ ፡ ፩ ።

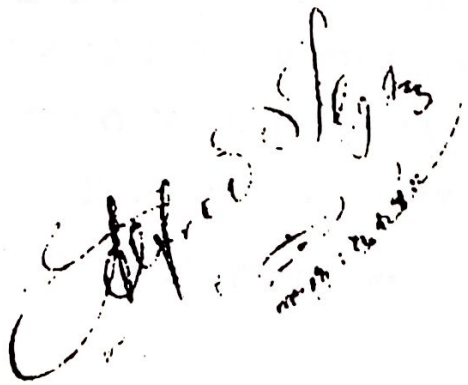
አታናስ ፡ ሪጋስ ።

042. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Ankobar 30 June "1889"

የተላከ ፡ ከሙሴ ፡ ኢልግ ፡ ይድረስ ፡ ከይዚ ዝማች ፡
መኮንን ፡ ለወርቂኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡
እጅ ፡ እነሣለሁ ፡ እጅጉን ፡ እነዚሞ ፡ ሰነባቱ ፡ ጌታዬ ፡
እኔ ፡ በእግዚአብሔር ፡ ቸርነት ፡ ይሳናን ፡ ነኝ ።
የመሥራች ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ ከርቱሽ ፡ ደኅና ፡ ተሠራ ፡ እነሆ ፡
ቃይፋው ፡ ልኬልዎታለሁ ፡ ይስ ፡ በሉኝል ፡ ከርስዎ ፡
ይሉኝ ፡ ይበለም ። ለፈቂኔ ፡ ሰለ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ሰለ ፡ እግርዎ ፡
ምኒቀመጫ ፡ ብጣም ፡ ይመቹ ። ከሣ በሽ ፡ ሰው ፡ አርስዎ ፡
ነው ፡ ይሉት ።
አሁንም ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ ጥቂት ፡ ቀን ፡ ልክ ይለሁና ፡ አይራ ፡
ንጉሥ ይቀረጥብኝ ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ አይራዎን ።
እግዚአብሔር ትክዓይነ ፡ ሰጎ ፡ ያግኙኝ ።
አንኮበር ፡ በሰኔ ፡ በ፴ ፡ ሠጓ ፡ ፩ ።

043. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Enṭoṭṭo 5 September "1889"

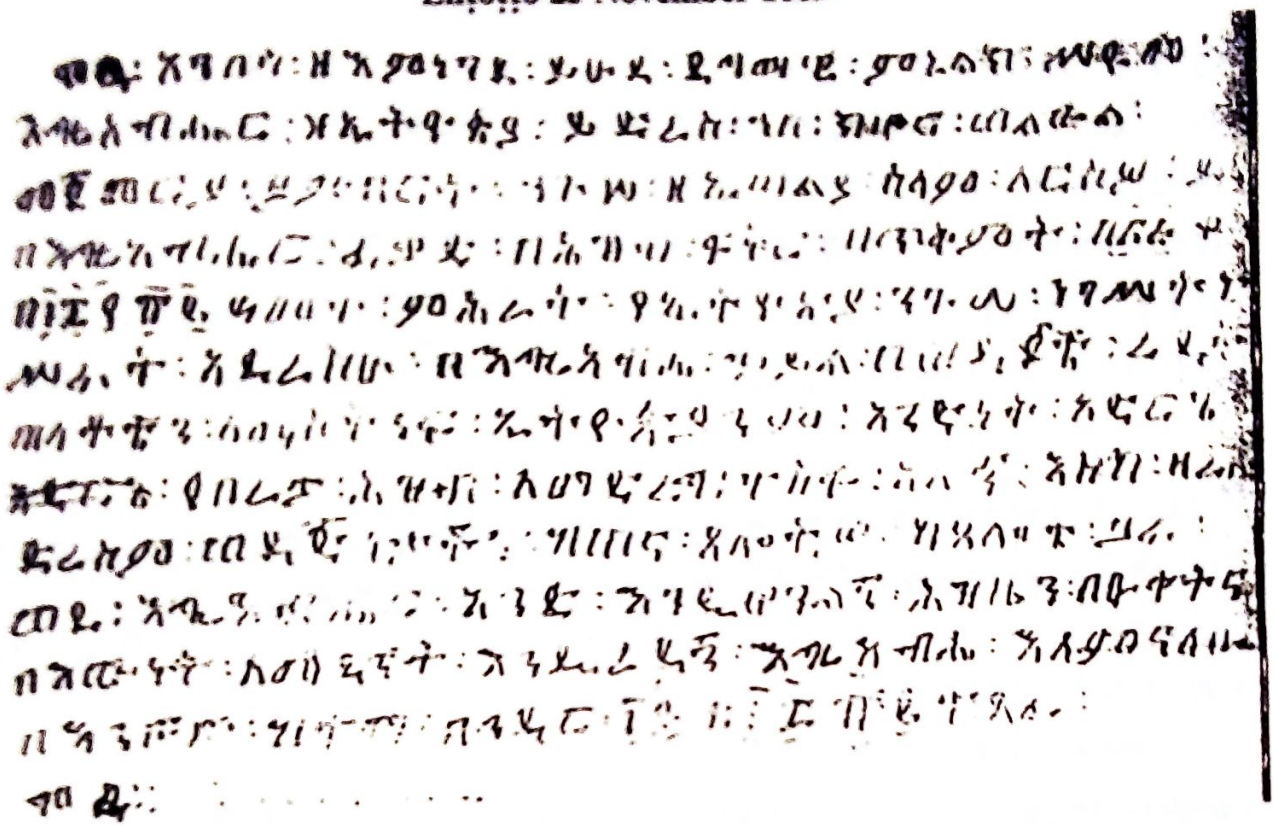
175



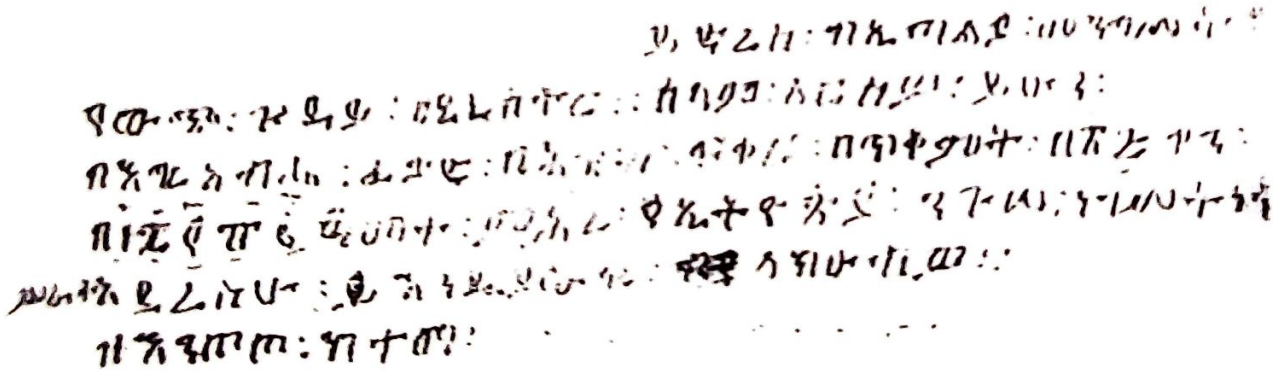
044. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 31 October "1889"

[illegible]

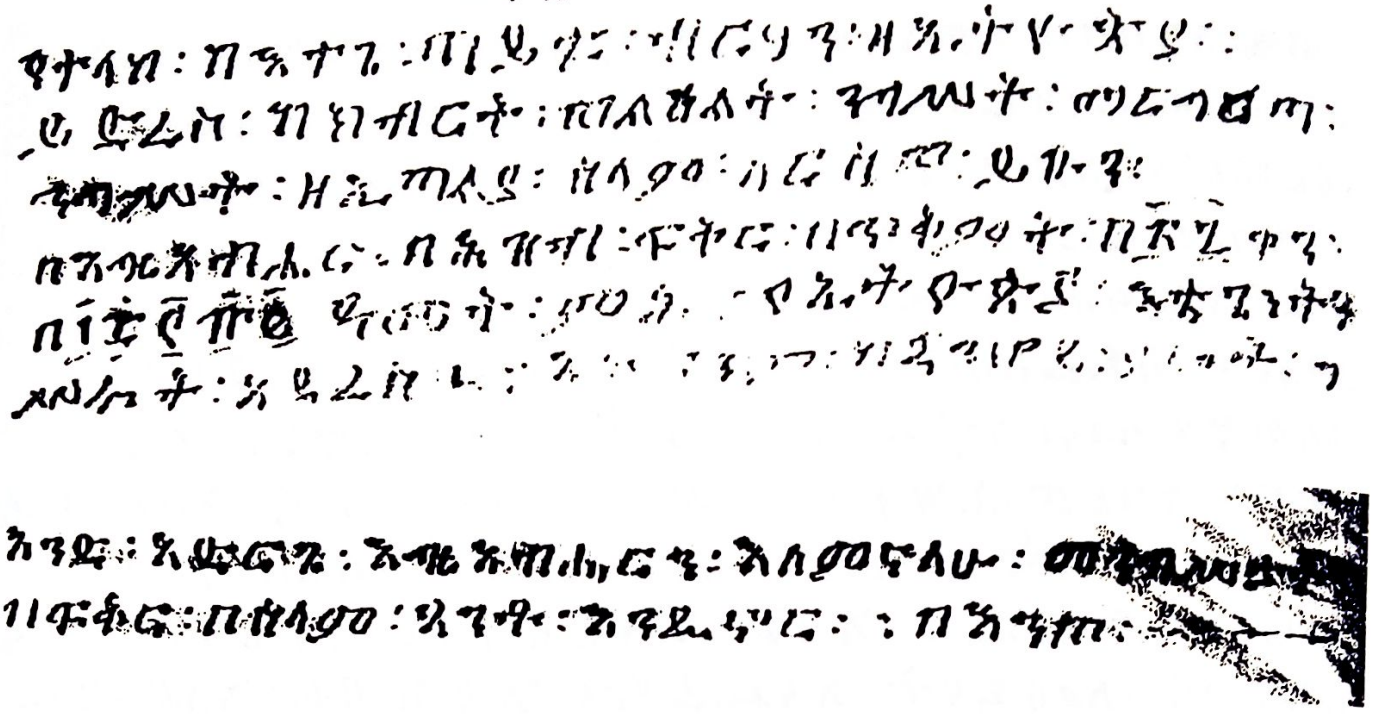
045.A. Menilek II to Umberto I
Entoṭṭo 25 November 1889



045.B. Menilek II to Italian Foreign Ministry
Entoṭṭo "25 November 1889"

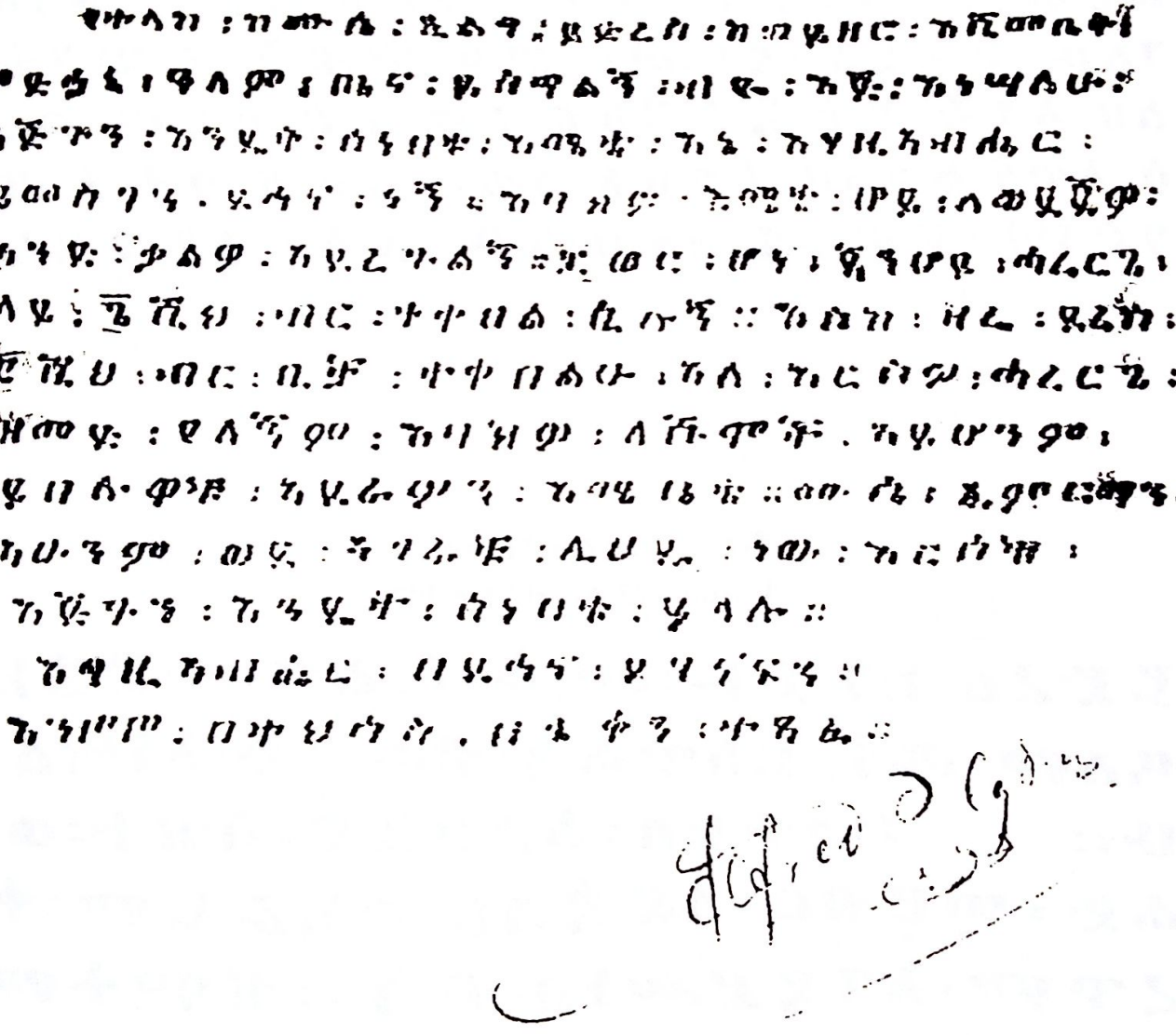


045.C. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Margarita
Enṭoṭṭo "25 November 1889"

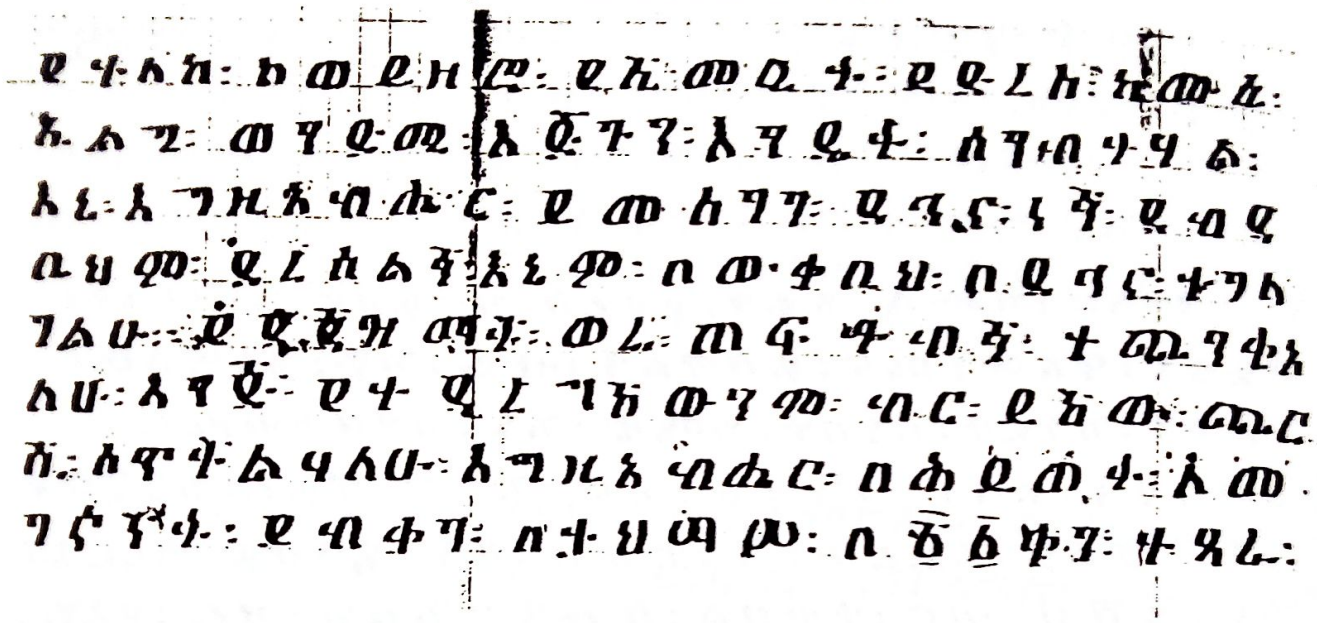


046. Alfred Ilg to Yašimmabēt ʾAli
Enṭoṭṭo 14 December "1889"

263

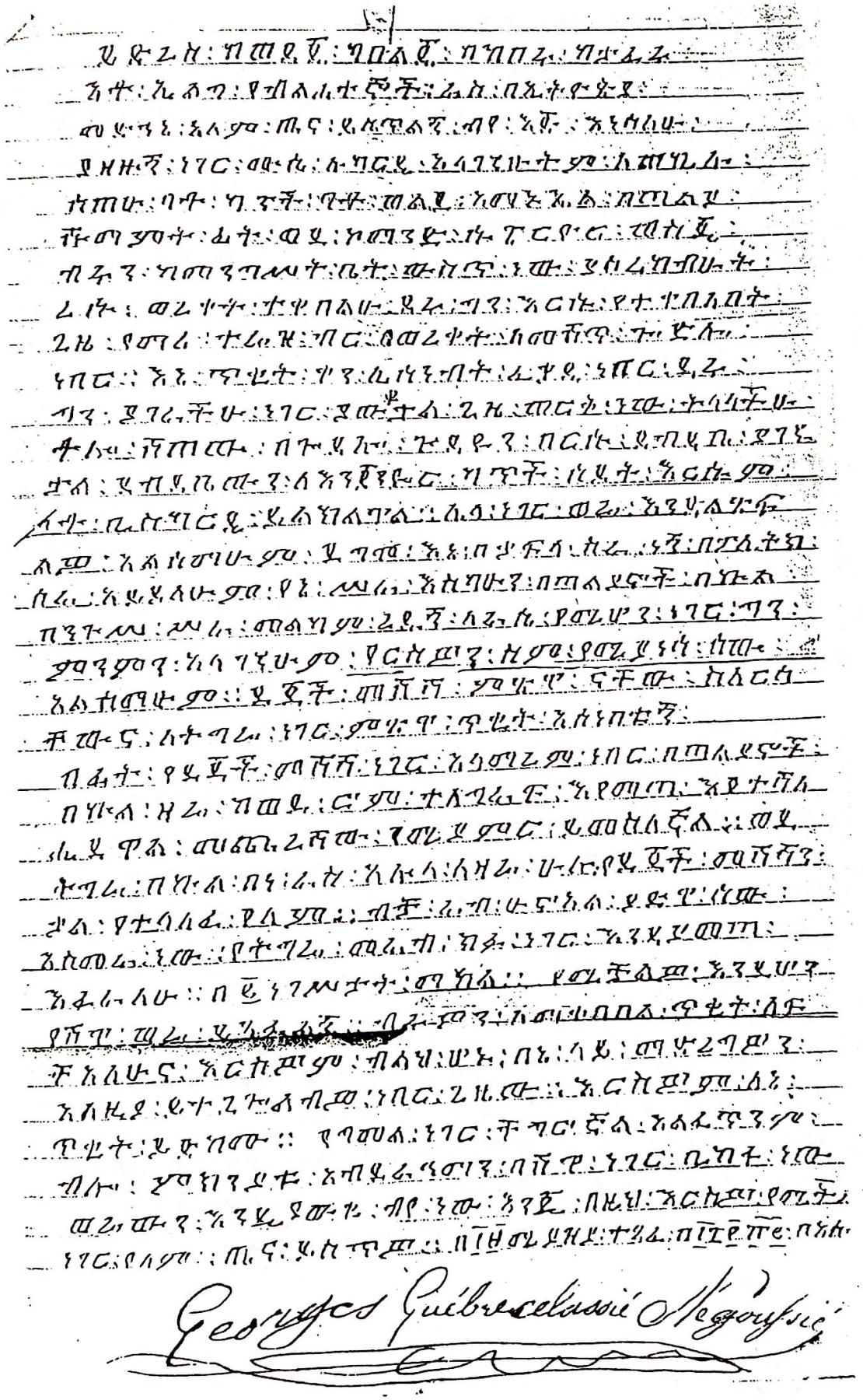


047. Yašimmabēt ʾAli to Alfred Ilg
"Ḥarar" 29 December "1889"

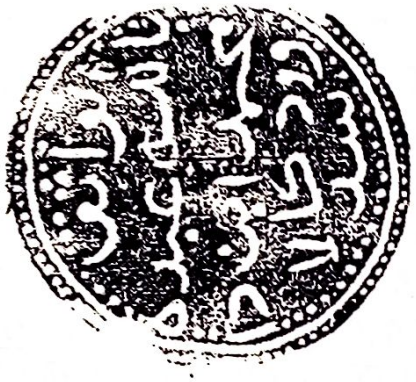


048. Engedā to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 23 April "1890"?

049. Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Asab 26 April 1890

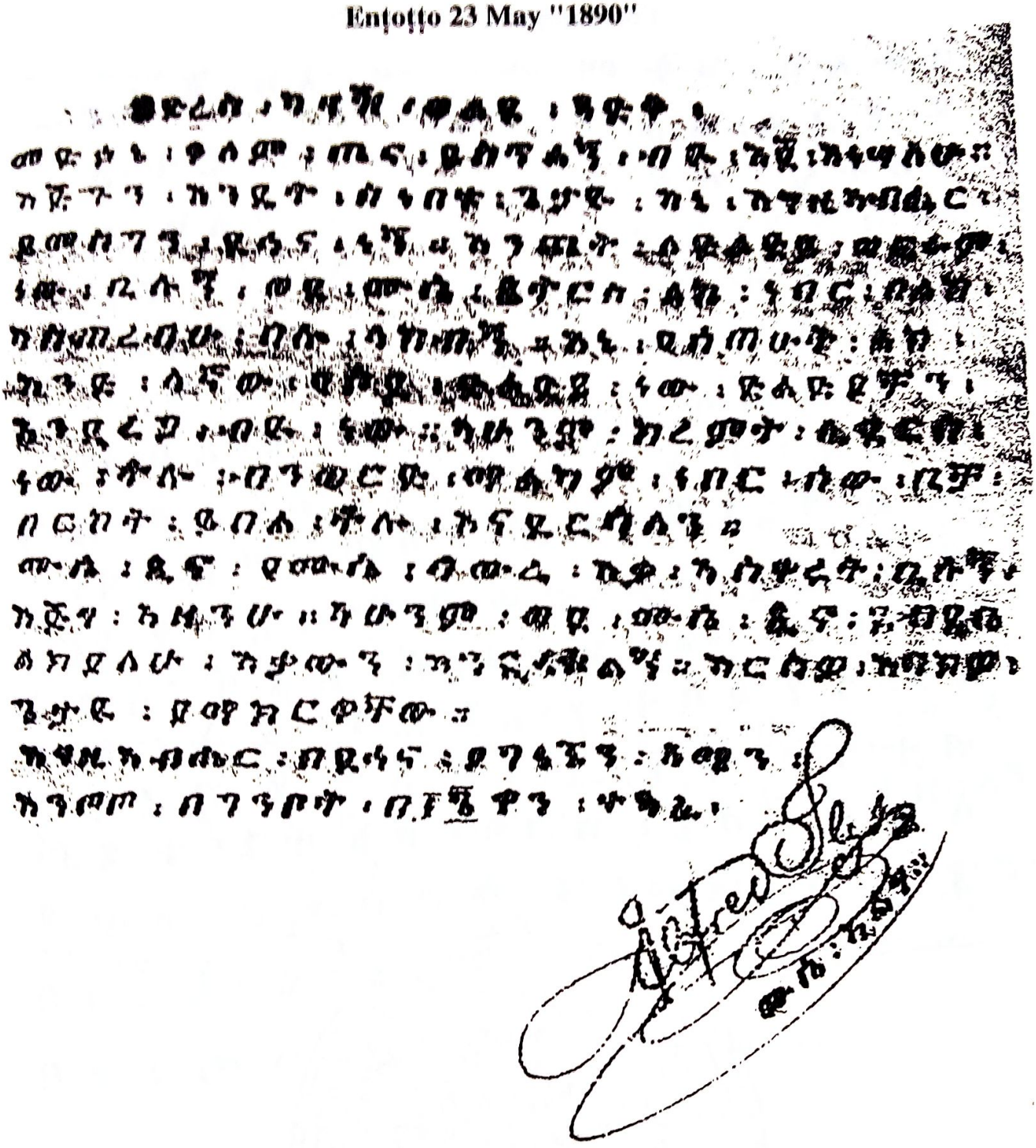


050. Abbā Ğefār to Alfred Ilg
Ankobar 1 May 1890

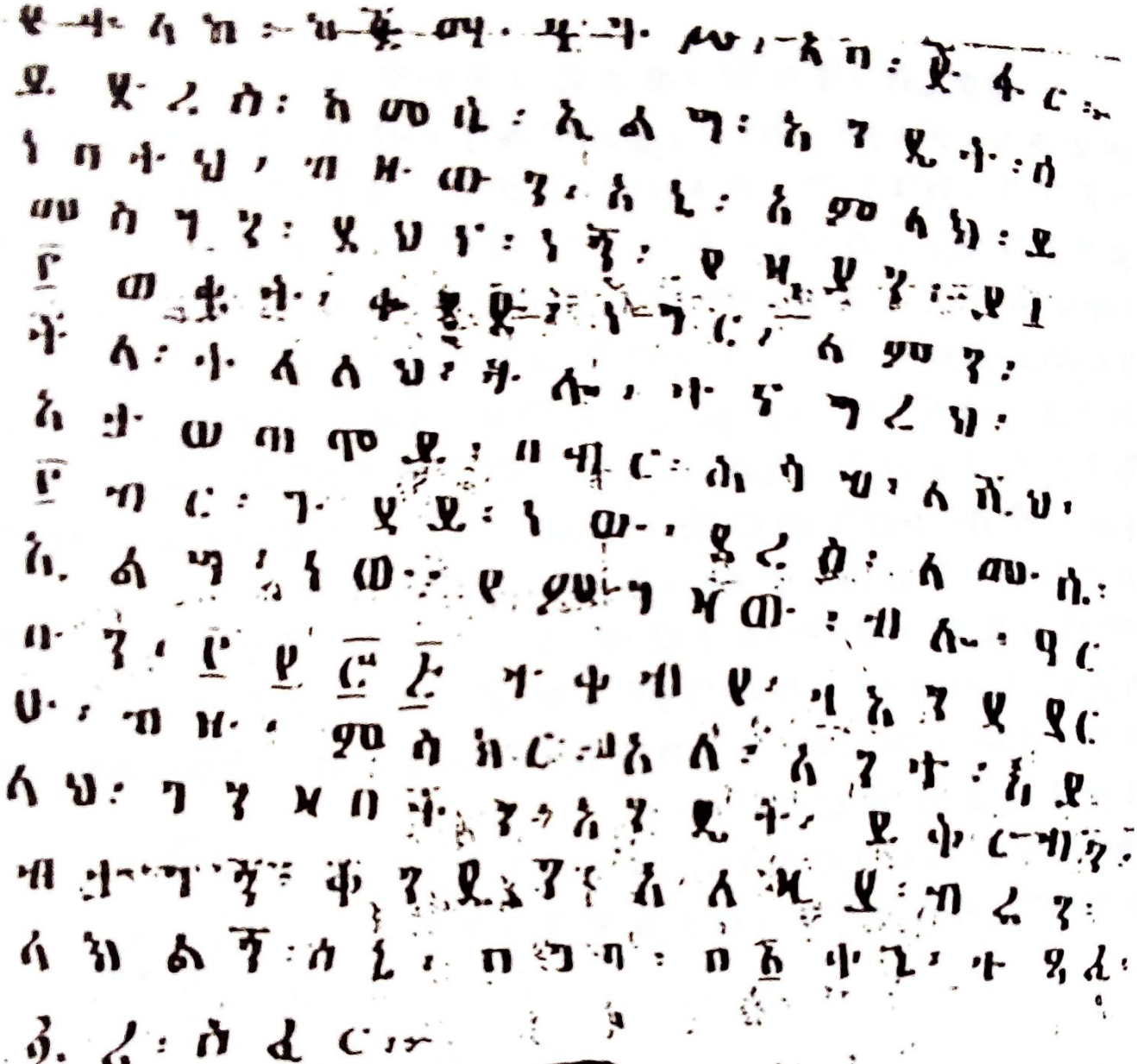


051. Land Purchase Contract
Ankobar 8 May 1890

052. Alfred Ilg to Walda Ṣādeq
Enṭoṭṭo 23 May "1890"



053. Abbā Ğefār to Alfred Ilg
Furi camp 26 June "1890"



054. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 27 August 1890

ሞ ሳ ፡ አ ዳ በ ሳ ፡ ዘ እ ም ኑ ግ ሯ ፡ ይ ሁ ዳ ፡ ሃ ላ ማ ዊ ፡ ም ኔ
ል ክ ፡ ሥ ዩ መ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ን ጉ ሠ ፡ ነ ግ ሥ ት ፡ ዘ
ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ። ፡ ይ ፡ ሯ ረ ስ ፡ ዘ መ ሲ ፡ ኡ ል ላ ፡ እ ኳ ዬ ት ፡
ው ለ ሃ ል ፡ እ ኔ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ይ መ ሥ ግ ኝ ፡ ያ
ሃ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ። ። ጕ ዳ ይ ፡ አ ለ ኝ ና ፡ ነ ፣ ፡ በ ና ቀ ፡ እ ኳ
ሯ ት መ ጣ ፡ ይ ሁ ኝ ፡ ። ። ።

055. Menilek II to the Head of the Geographical Society in Rome ... 11 October 1890

056. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 29 October 1890

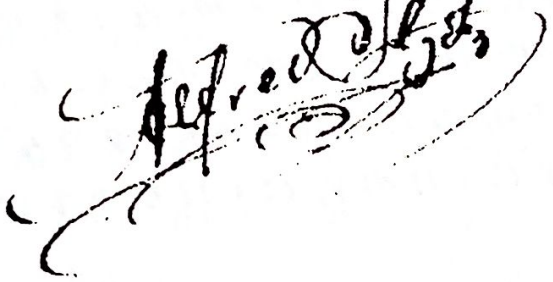
ሐመ ዓ ፡ እግዘኅ ፡ዘእ ምነ ግሂ ፡ይሁ ሂ ፡ሂ ኅ ማ ዊ ፡ሃ ኒ ል ክ ፡
ሥ ዩ መ ፡ እ ኅ ዞ ኩ ብ ሐ ር ፡ ግ ጉ ሠ ፡ ነ ግ ሥ ት ፡ዘ ኢ ት
ሦ ጵ ያ ፡፡ ፡፡ ይ ዙ ረ ከ ፡ ከ መ ሲ ፡ ኢ ል ኅ ፡ እ ግ ሂ ት ፡
ው ስ ሃ ል ፡ እ ኔ ፡ እ ኅ ዞ ኢ ብ ሐ ር ፡ይ መ ስ ገ ፡
ዊ ኅ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ፡ የ ሠ ግ ቃ ው ን ሃ ፡ ነ ግ ር ፡ ቅ ር ቃ ረ ፡ የ
መ ድ ነ ት ል ፡ ከ ሦ ነ ፡ በ ኽ ሮ ን ሂ ፡ ባ ል ቻ ፡ እ ግ ዲ ለ ው ፡
[redacted] ፡ ሠ ን ቃ ው ፡ እ ግ ዲ ይ ነ ኅ ፡ ሦ ሶ ፡ የ ው ስ ጡ ፡
ጋ ዩ ሃ ፡ ቢ ሉ ረ ጥ ፡ የ ሚ ሆ ን ፡ [redacted] ፡ የ ሦ ነ ፡
እ ግ ዲ ሦ ነ ፡ መ ል ካ ሃ ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ው ስ ጡ ሃ ፡ ተ ቆ ር ው ፡
ሰ ን ቃ ው ሃ ፡ የ ሚ በ ላ ኽ ፡ እ ን ዲ ሦ ነ ፡ ይ ቅ ር ኤ
ላ ኛ ፡ ሃ ን ፡ ይ ዚ ረ ጋ ል ፡[illegible] የ ካ ቡ ች ን ሃ መ ፡ መ ሃ ጣ
ት ፡ ብ ስ መ ፡ እ ጅ ላ ፡ ዲ ስ ፡ አ ለ ኛ ፡ ዛ ሬ ፡ ይ ባ ባ ል ፡ ብ ት
ለ ኛ ፡ እ ጅ ላ ፡ ች ኩ ያ ለ ሀ ። ና ፡ በ ጊ ዚ ፡ የ መ ጣ ፡ እ ግ ዲ
ሦ ነ ፡ እ ግ ዲ ዲ ረ ስ ፡ ይ ዘ ኽ ው ፡ እ ን ሁ ት መ ሰ ፡ ይ ሀ ፡
ግ ፡፡ የ መ ሲ ፡ ሽ ሬ ኒ ፡ ሲ ራ ር ፡ አ ቀ ሽ ፡ ገ ባ ፡ ብ ለ ህ ፡
የ ለ ክ ህ ብ ኛ ፡ ኦ ው ነ ተ ኛ ፡ ስ ው ፡ እ ላ ኛ ተ ሃ ል ኛ ፡ው
ራ ስ ፡ ይ ሦ ግ ፡ በ ው ነ ት ማ ፡ ክ መ ጣ ፡ አ ዛ ኝ ፡ ወ ል ሂ
ኣ ዲ ቅ ፡ ይ ል ክ ብ ኛ ል ፡ የ ሱ ፣ አ ሽ ክ ር ፡ ዛ ሬ ፡ ሳ ይ ግ
ባ ፡ አ ይ ቶ ር ም ። በ ጥ ቅ ም ት ፡ ባ ቹ ቶ ኛ ፡ ባ ዲ ስ ፡ አ
በ በ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፡ ተ ጻ ረ ፡ ባ ፣ ፲ የ ሸ ሮ ዓ መ ት ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ፡

057. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Addis Ababâ 4 November 1890

ሞዓ፡እግዚአ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡ዘሳለማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠይ
መ፡እሳዘ.አብሔር፡ንገሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘአትዮጵያ፡ደ
ይዊ.ስ፡ከመ.ሴ፡አ.ፈላ፡እገዚ፡ስነበላ.ክ፡እኔ፡እሳዚ
አብሔር፡ይመስገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ።ወደእግላለ.ዝ፡ነ
ገሥት፡ዘጣ.ኒደወ.ን፡ደብዳቤ፡ጸ.ፈህ፡የሰደ
ህልኝን፡አናደለን፡ብለን፡ከምዐሰቡ፡አሠ.ጥ፡ነ.
ስናየወ.እይ.ና፡ነካወ.ና፡ላ.በለሽ።እግዚ፡ንና፡
እኳዲጸና፡ሠመልክ፡ተ.ንኳትኔ፡ርቤ፡ምዐ/ደ፡ብዙ፡ቤው
ሃ፡ሰይ.ሺ፡ሐላለሀ.ኑ፡ጾ.ፈ.ህ፡ሰጉላ.ከ፡ሠ.አዘኻ፡
ወልዳ፡ጸድ፡ት፡ሽኝኺ.ች፡ሠ.፡በዚደወ.፡በኩ.ል፡እግ
ዜኬዲ፡ደሁ.ሃ።ደብ[ደ]ቤው.ን፡ምዐ፡እፈ.ሰ፡ሠመኩ.ግ
ን፡አይሣ.ት፡ነው.ኑ።ደጣ.ሠለደይው፡አ፡ምዐሰላጭ፡
ፅኅ፡ዳይግ፡ለነ፡ምዐ፡ይሁ.ኃ።—።በጥቅምዐት፡በ፯ኛቀ
ን፡ባይ.ሰ፡አበባ፡አተማ፡ነ.ጸፈ.—።

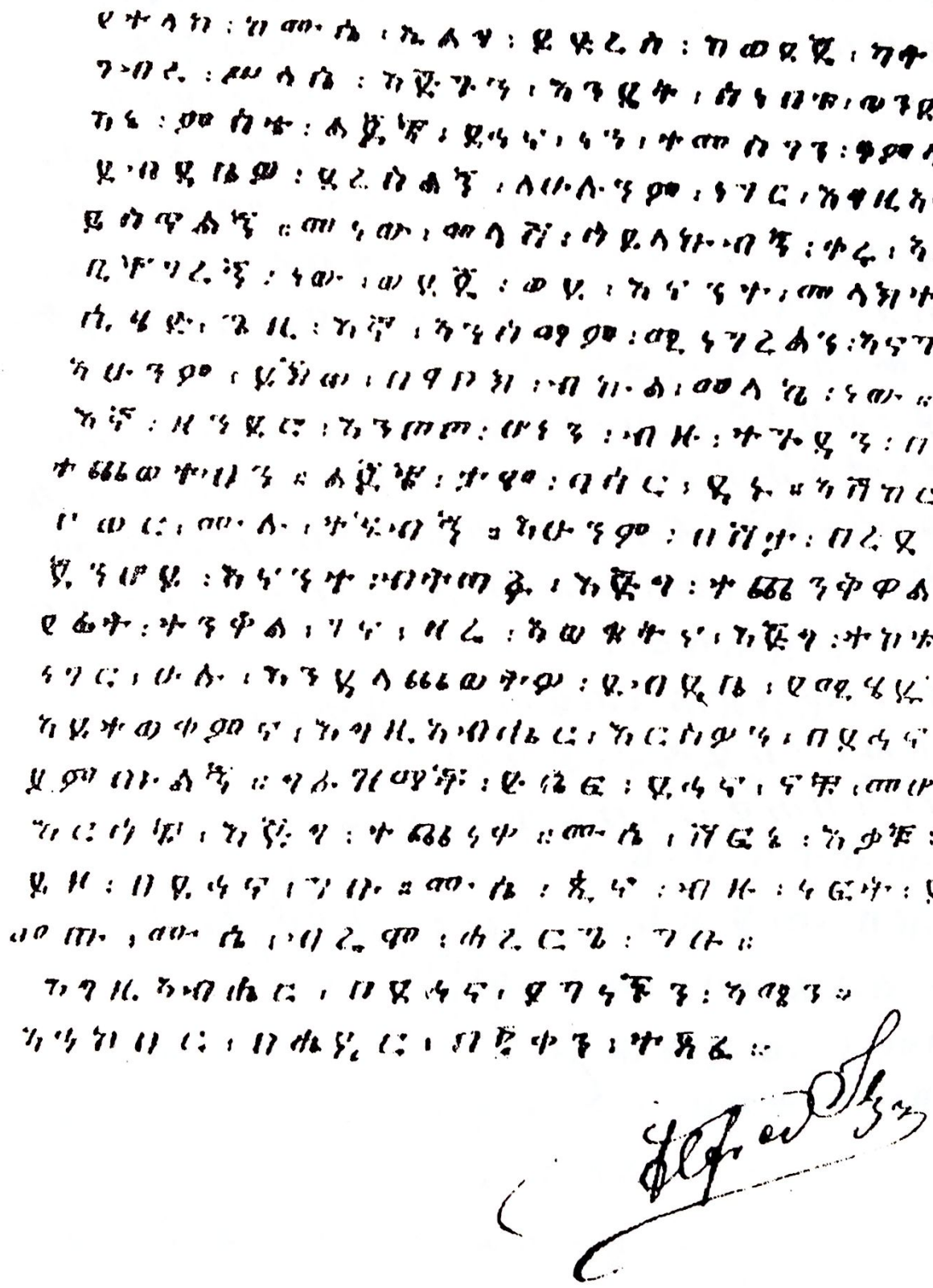
በ፲፱፻፹ ቦ፯ መተ፡ምዐሐረት።—

058. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Ankobar 10 November "1890"



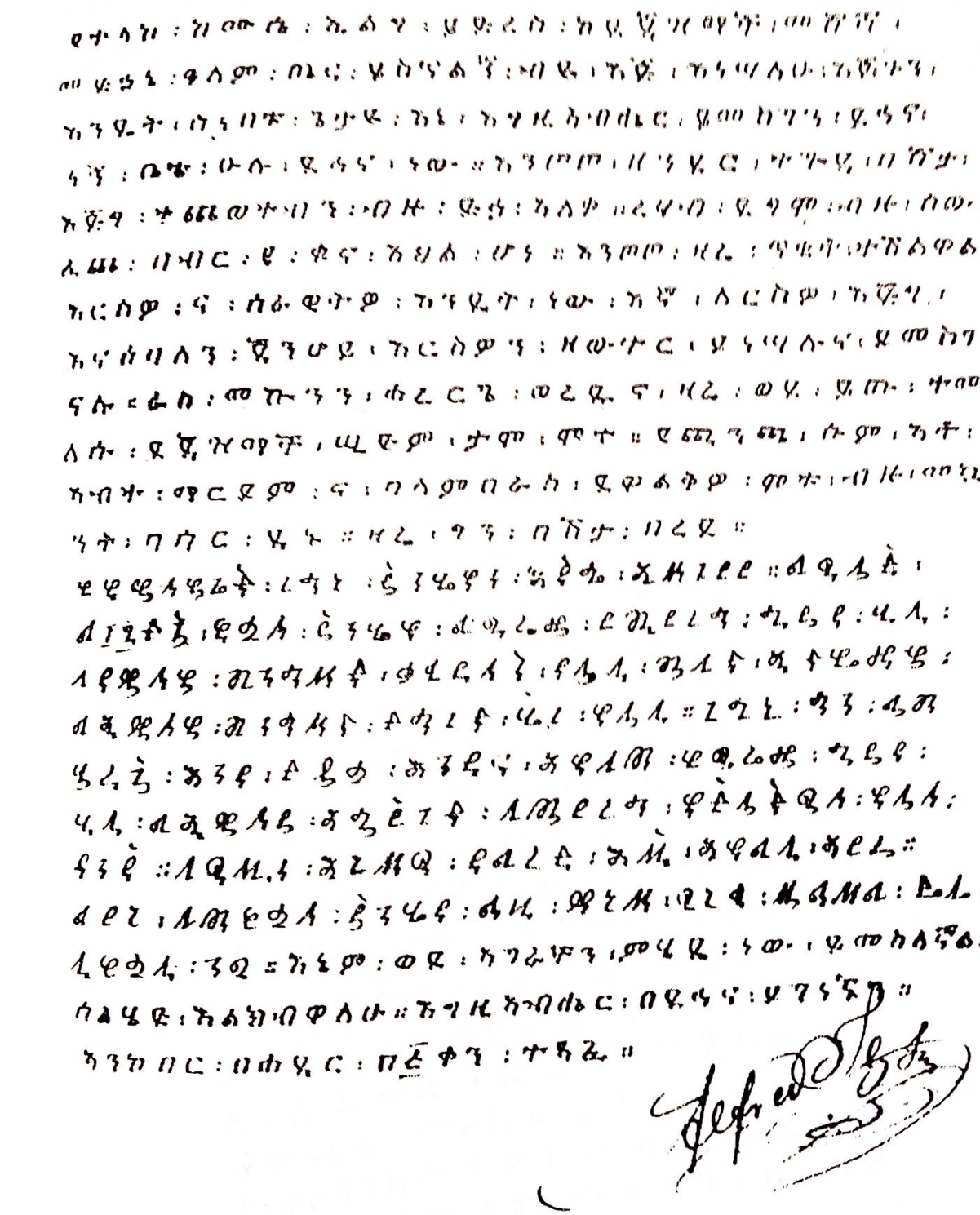
059. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē
Ankobar 10 November "1890"

114



060. Alfred Ilg to Mašnašā Warqē
Ankobar 13 November "1890"

119



061. Contract Between Alfred Ilg and Gabrē
Enṭoṭṭo 23 March "1891"

ነኔ ፡ ወሎ ፡ ሄ. ል ፣ ኧ ግ ፣ ከ ፡ ግ ፡ ገ ፡ ዘ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሀ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሀ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሀ

063. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 April 1891

ሞዓ፡አኀ ዘለሳ፡ዘአ[illegible]ሂ፡ዲፃማዊ፡ምኔልክ፡
ሠዩ.ወሀ፡እፃዘአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮ
ጵያ፡፡ይድረስ፡ከወ.ሴ፡ኢልፃ፡እግዜት፡ው.ልሄ
ል፡እኔ፡እፃዘአብሔር፡ይመሥግኑ፡ደህና፡ነኝ፡፡
ከወዲ፡ባሔር፡ዲብደቤ፡መኖ ቷ ፡ና፡የምትቸል፡
የሆንክ፡እግዲሆነ፡ነገ፡ጠላሄ፡ብትመጣ፡እወዳ
ለሁ፡፡የጣትቸል፡የሆንክ፡እግዲሆነ፡ፃንፃመሳሹ
ን፡ለክብኝ፡ዲብደቤውን፡እንድሰዱልህ፡፡በጪደ
ዝደ፡በ፲ቱ ቀን፡ባ፲፪ የ፹ ፫ ዓመተ፡ምሕረት፡በደ
ስ፡አበባ፡ከተማ፡ሁጸፈ።

064. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 June 1891

ሞዓ፡አፄበሳ፡ዘአምኑግደ፡ይሁደ፡ዳግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠይመ፡ኔግዚ
አብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገ ሥ ቱ፡ዘኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ፡፡ ይድረስ፡ክሙ
ሴ፡ኢ ልግ፡እ ሚ ዬ ቱ፡ስ ዓ ብ ሑ ሃ ፡ኤ ሄ፡እ ግዚ አ ብ ሔ ር፡ይመ
ሥ ገ ን፡ይ ህ ን፡ኑ ኝ ። ከ መ ቀ ሊ፡ያ መ ጣ ኑ ዋ፡መ ድ ፍ፡ስ ና
ኑ ሳ፡የ መ ድ ፉ ን፡መ ሳ ሪ ያ፡ለ ሚ ሽ ከ መ ው፡ሰ ው፡ይ ሴ ይ ዝ ን
በ ቱ፡ይ ብ ጸ ቤ፡ካ ን ቱ፡ዘ ን ድ፡ኑ በ ር ። ። እ ሁ ን፡ግ ን፡የ መ ድ ፉ፡
መ ሳ ሪ ይ፡ሙ ሉ እ ል ና፡ይ ብ ጸ ቤ ው ን፡እ ይ የ ን፡ስ የ ሰ ው፡እ
ን ድ ኒ ቀ በ ል በ ቱ፡እ ዚ ቱ፡ዘ ን ድ፡እ ን ደ ለ፡ይ ብ ጸ ቤ ው ን፡እ ን ድ
ቱ ስ ድ ል ኝ፡ይ ሁ ን ። ። ይ ጀ ቱ፡መ ሽ ሽ ም፡ከ ቱ ግ ሩ፡በ ይ ዘ
ና፡መ ጣ ። ። ሁ ሉ ን ም፡ኑ ግ ር፡እ ጫ ወ ቱ ኝ ፡እ ጣ ሊ ይ ና ቹ፡
ባ ን ቱ፡እ ጅ ግ፡ይ ፈ ክ ሱ ሉ፡አ ሉ፡ያ ወ ቁ ት፡ኑ ግ ር፡መ ለ ካ ም፡
ኑ ው ና፡ኑ ግ ሩ ን፡ት ስ ማ ው፡ዝ ኪ፡ኑ ው፡መ ላ ኪ ፡፡—
በ ሰ ኔ፡በ ፲ ፪ ቀ ን፡በ ፲ ፫ ቀ ን ሞ ዐ, መ ቱ፡ያ መ፡በ ሳ
ይ ስ፡አ በ ሳ፡ሰ ላ ም፡ሞ ዓ።

065. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 June "1891"

የጦላከ፡ከእቺጊ፡ጣ ይቱ፡ዝርሃኝ፡ዘኢትዮጵ ይ።—፡
ይድረስ፡ከሙሲ፡ኢልግ፡እኝዬቱ፡ሰኝብተ ሃል፡እኔ፡
እግዚአ ብሔር፡ይመ ሥጊኝ፡ዬ ህና፡ነኝ።ከወዬ
ይ፡እን ር፡የማ መጣ ልዎ ኝ፡ዕቃ፡ይኝ ጉ ኝ፡ብትለኝ፡
ዘኝ ግቺ፡ስ ልነግ ር ህ፡ሂ ድ ህ።እሁ ኝ ም፡ለ ኤ፡የ
ሚ ሆ ኝ፡ጪ ማ፡እኝ ድ ታ መ ጣ ልኝ፡ይ ሁ ኝ።ለ ኔ፡የሚ
ሆ ነ ኝ፡ጫ. ማ፡ህ ፓ ና፡ህ ፀ፡ቁ ጥ ር፡ይ ለ በ ት፡ነ ው።ብለ
ኔ፡በ ፲ ፬ ቀ ኝ፡በ ሐ ዬ ስ፡አ ለ ላ፡ከ ተ ማ፡ተ ዓ ፈ።

066. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 11 July 1891

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Documents

067. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ḥarargē 11 July "1891"

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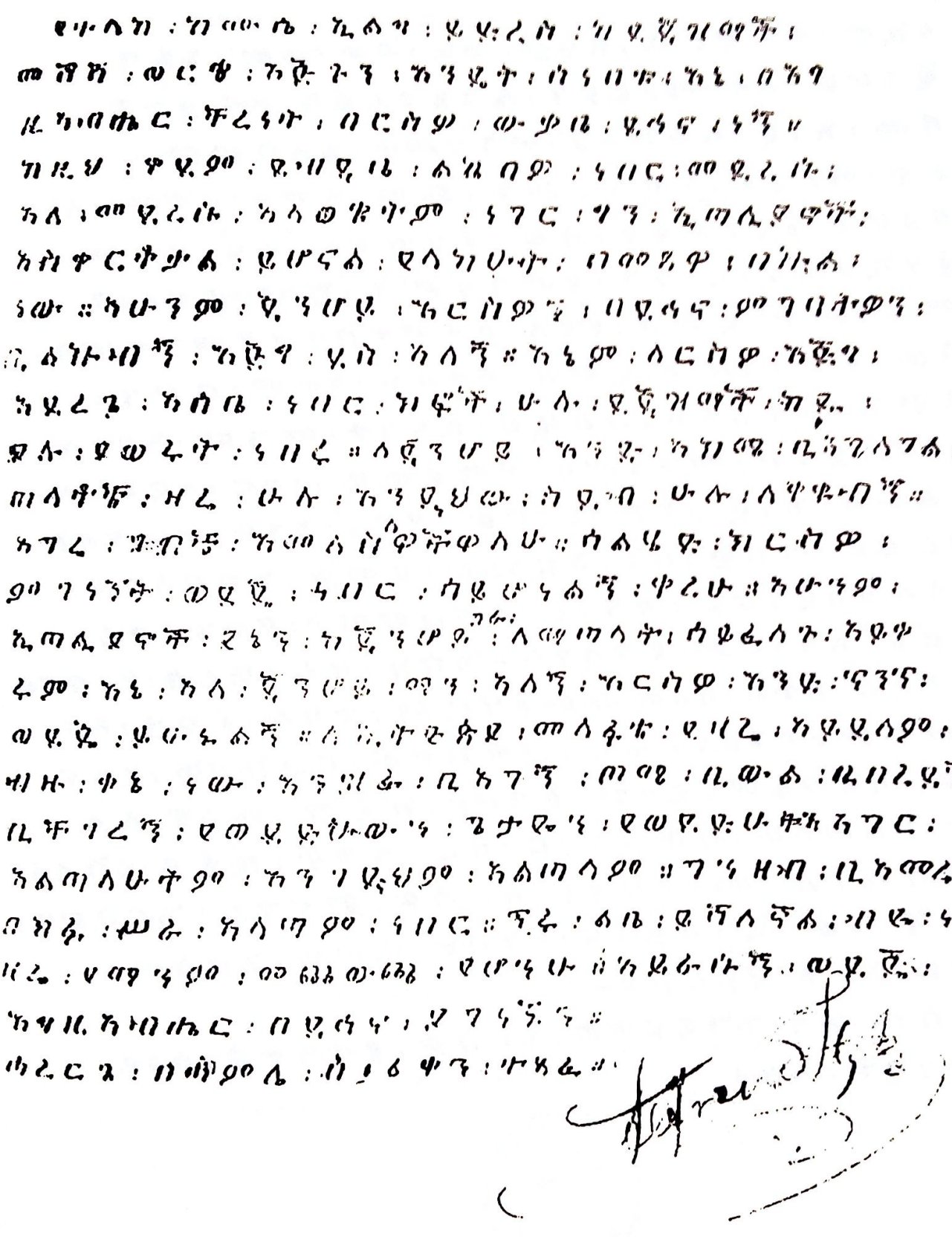
068.A. Alfred Ilg to Mašaša Warqē
Ḥarargē 17 July 1891



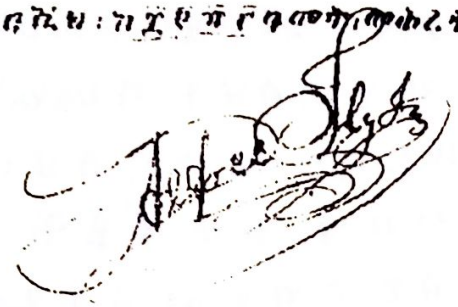
068.B. A Supplementary note

ጌታዬ ፡

ሃኪም ፡ ተራ ዎር ጪ ፣ ጽ ሃም ፣ መ ዲ ፣ ሽ ም ፡ መ ጣ ፣ ኦሌ ኻ ።
ጂ ን ሦ ዩ ፡ ል ት ፡ ማ ረ ፍ ይ ን ፡ ሌ ን ኦ ሃ ሑ ፊ ካ ፣ ምሳ ሐ ዘ ሮ ኽ ፡
ሰ ጡ ፡ እ ን ጂ ፡ ሌ ኢ ጣ ል ይ ፡ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፡ ኳ ሉ ሰ ጡ ም ።
ል ት ፡ ማ ረ ፍ ይ ፡ የ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፡ ሽ ም ፡ ለ መ ን ፡ ይ ቀ መ ጣ ል ፡
ባ ይ ሆ ን ፡ ፩ ዩ ኡ ው ቀ ት ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ፫ ይ ዝ ት ራ ፣ ዝ ይ ፡ ይ ሃ ም ፡
፩ ሃ ኪ ም ፡ ኑ ግ ር ፡ ግ ን ፡ የ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፣ ሽ ለ መ ት፡ይ ዩ ለ ፡ ዩ
መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፡ ይ ም ዝ ፡ ዩ ዩ ለ ፡ ይ ቀ መ ተ ገ ት ። የ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት፡
ሰ ው ፡ የ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፡ ይ ም ዝ ፣ ተ ቀ በ ሉ ፡ ዩ ሉ ም ፣ ቢ ሆ ን ፣
ይ ም ዝ ፡ ይ ቀ በ ላ ል ፡ ስ ለ ዚ ህ ፣ ሊ ና ን ሱ ፣ መ ን ም ፡ ኣ ይ ገ ለ
ግ ለ ም ፡ ይ ሃ ም ፡ መ ን ሃ ሥ ት ፡ ዩ ጣ ይ ወ ይ ፡ ኑ ግ ር ፣ ኣ ይ ጸ ፈ ም ፣
ይ ፈ ራ ል ፡ እ ን ጂ ። የ ው ጪ ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ዩ ሆ ኑ ፡ እ ን ይ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ዩ ሉ ት ፡
ማ ረ ፍ ይ ፡ ጣ ቦ ቅ ፡ ሆ ን ፣ ስ ጠ ላ ለ ሁ ፣ ይ ም ዝ ፡ እ ቀ በ ላ ለ ሁ ፡
ይ ላ ል ። ክ ጂ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ከ እ ግ ሩ ፣ ለ ወ ስ ዓ ፣ ማ ት ፡ ይ ሱ ን ቀ ቃ ል ።
መ ይ ይ ፡ ለ እ ግ ር ዎ ፡ ይ ገ ለ ግ ላ ። ኣ ሰ ለ ፡ ዘ ሩ ፡ ዑ ረ ስ ፡ ዩ ነ ባ ር ዉ ፡
፮ ኣ ዲ ስ ፡ ክ ተ ል ፡ ኣ ለ መ ጡ ም ። ሃ ኪ ም ፡ ሱ ዘ ሉ ፡ ፩ ዩ ኃ ፡ ኣ ሳ
ፈ ወ ሱ ም ። ለ ን ኦ ዓ ራ ፊ ካ ፡ ም ሓ ዘ ሮ ች ፡ ዚ ለ ኩ ባ ኽ ፣ ይ ሓ ና ፡
ሰ ው ፡ ኣ ይ ጣ ፉ ም ። ይ ዓ ም ፡ ጂ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ከ ኺ ዓ ፡ ው ስ ጥ ፡ ሌ ላ ፡
ቦ ታ ፡ እ ሰ ጣ ለ ሁ ፡ ዝ ሎ ፡ ኑ ዘ በ ር ፡ ዛ ሬ ፡ ጭ ቲ ሃ ፡ ቢ ቆ ይ ፡ ይ ሻ ላ ል ፡
ይ መስ ለ ኛ ል ። እ ኔ ፡ ይ ህ ን ን ፡ ለ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ም ና ግ ሬ ፡ ኣ ር ስ ዎ ን ፡
እ መ ኛ ፡ ነ ው ፣ ጂ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ና ፡ እ ግ ር ዎ ፡ ቢ ወ ድ ፣ እ ር ስ ዎ ፡
እ ን ድ ፣ እ ወ ቁ ፡ ይ ይ ረ ግ ። ።——
ም ስ ተ ራ ዙ ን ፡ እ ን ዴ ይ ወ ጠ ፡ እ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ይ ተ ን ቀ ቁ ። ሰ ላ ይ ፡
እ ተ ግ ባ ኙ ፡ ኣ ለ ።

069. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 17 July 1891

[illegible]



070. Mašašā Warqē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July "1891"

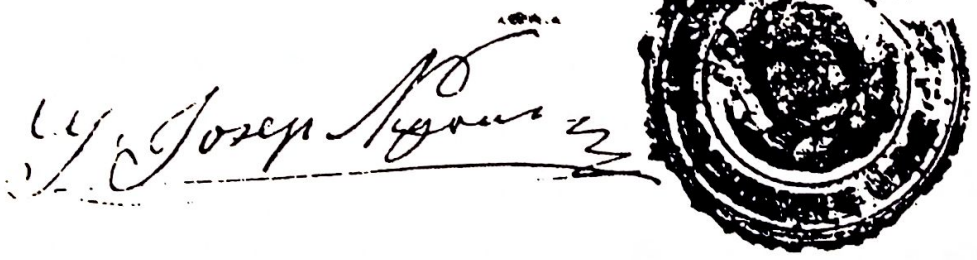
[illegible]

071. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

የጐላሕ፡ከፎኤቲፒ፡ጠሂቱ፡ብርሃን፡ዘኢጵዮጵያ።ደጅረስ፡ከመ
ሲ፡ኢልግ።እጅጉን፡እየ ፈጱ፡ሰንብትሃል።እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡
ይመስገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ።ደብደቢህ ያመ ደረሰልኝ።ሐረርም፡
በደኅና፡መጽረስህን፡ሰማሁ።ደግሞ፡እግዚአብሔር፡
ከገርህ፡በደህና፡ያድርሰህ፤ሙሲ፡ኢልግ፡ሀበሻ፡ሂደ፡
ሚሰጱ፡አግብጥ፡ዙ፡ብዙ፡ልጅ፡ች፡ወለደ፡ብሉ፡እኝጉኒሌ፡
ጋዜጣ፡አሰጽርጎብሃል፡ሰጱሂድ፡የሰጠሁህን፡ጋዜጣ፡
አሰምረህ፡አድሬህ፡በሌላ፡በኩል፡እጅ፡አዘውረህ፡ሰጥተ
ህ፡ሁሉም፡እደየ፡እኛደሰቱበት፡አድርሳ።ሰራሲም፡የ
ምቀባውን፡ዘደጱ፡ጫዜማ ውን ም፡ነዝሩህ፡እኛድጌመጣ
ልኝ፡ደሁን።ደግሞ፡ከገርህ፡ሰጱግባ፡ያገኘሽ ውን፡ጋዜ
ጣ፡ሁሉ፡እኛድጱሰ ደልኝ፡ደሁን።ሚሰጱህም፡ልጇህ
ም፡ደኅና፡ናቸው፡አትሰጋ።እግዚአብሔር፡በደህና፡መል
ሰህ፡በዲደኔ፡ሠጋ፡ለመጱ ያ የት፡ያብቃኝ።በሐምሌ፡ባ፲
፫ኛ፡ባደሰ፡አበባ፡ከጱ ወባ፡ጱ ዓ ረ፡
ቁ፲፰፻ የ፹ ቦ፡ዲመላ፡ምሕረት።

072. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July "1891"

የ ተ ሳ ከ ፡ ከ ግ ራ ዝ ጠ ን ፡ ዮ ሴ ፍ ፡ ደ ድ ረ ስ ፡ ከ መ ሔ ፡ ኡ ለ ግ ፡ እ ነ ዲ ት ፡ ሰ ነ በ ቱ ፡ ኣ ኔ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ደ መ ስ ግ ዛ ፡ ደ ሳ ኒ ፡ ነ ች ፡ ም ነ ው ፡ ደ ኅ ን ነ ት ዎ ን ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ሰ ደ ለ ኩ ለ ች ፡ የ ቀ ራ ፡ ከ ዛ ሻ ፡ በ ፈ ለ በ ዘ ፡ ን ራ ፡ የ ት ሰ ዋ ወ ጣ ች ሁ ት ን ም ድ ር ፡ እ ቢ ፡ ብ ሉ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ለ ጀ ን ሦ ደ ፡ ነ ግ ሬ ፡ በ ሰ ም ፡ እ ጅ ፡ ሠ ነ ፡ የ ደ ጣ ያ ሚ ን ፡ ነ ግ ር ፡ በ ጣ ሪ ስ ፡ ደ ጠ ፋ ኑ ት ፡ ከ ሁ ለ ፡ እ ግ ፈ ል ሰ ም ፡ በ መ ር ዝ ፡ እ ኛ ኳ ያ ስ ገ ድ ል ም ፡ ነ ወ ፡ በ ፈ ረ ን ሳ ዊ ፡ ኒ ታ ን ታ ፡ የ ኑ ኣ ፈ ፡ ን ዚ ን ፡ እ ነ ዲ ል ኩ ለ ች ፡ በ ፈ ረ ሳ ዊ ፡ ቋ ን ቋ ፡ በ እ ዴ ስ አ በ ባ ፡ ከ ኮ ጣ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡



073. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

ማዓ፡አንበሳ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡አሸናፊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠይመ፡እጓ
ዝሊአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ——ደ ጅረስ፡ከው
ሲ፡ኤልጓ፡እንዲት፡ሰጓብሉ ጎልማሳ፡እኔ-እ ጓነሊአብሔር፡ይመስገን
ደህና፡ነኝ። ለቤት፡ጣራ፡የሚሆን፡ሸክላ፡ለገራጅ፡እን
ዴናሰራ፡ምስሉን፡ይዝህልኝ፡እኔ ጅ ቅመጣ፡ይሁ ን።በ
ሐምሌ፡በ፲፮ ቀን፡ጣ ጂስ፡አበባ፡ከሉጣ፡ሉጓረ——
በ፲፯ ፲፰ ፲፱ ፳ ዓመቱ፡ምሕረት።——

074. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

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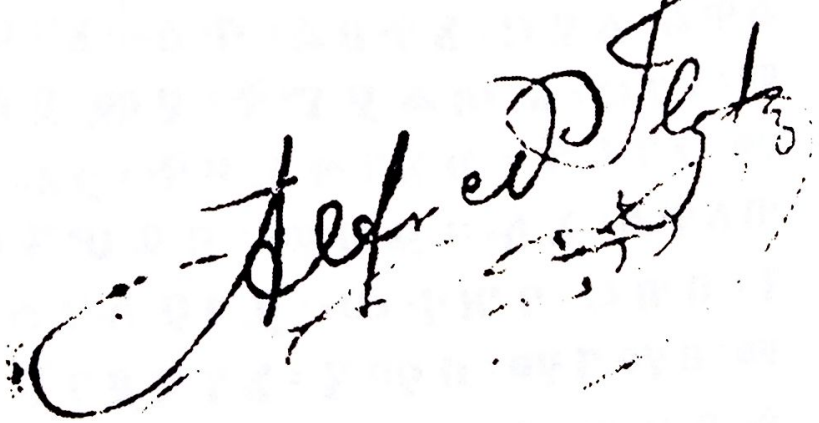
ሞዓ ፡ እግበሳ ፡ ዘእምነገሢ ፡ ይሁ ፬ ፡ ኂሣ ማኪ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡ ሥዒመ ፡ እ
ላዚአብሔር ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ። ይዩዲስ ፡ ከ
መ ፡ ሴልላ ፡ እግዚትኑ ፡ ሰግብተሃለ ፡ እኒ ፡ እሺዘ . አብሔር ፡ ይመ
ስግን ፡ የኖኖ ፡ ነሺ ። በሐምሌ ፡ በ፲ተኛ ፡ ሐረር ጌ ፡ ሆነህ ፡ ጽሬ
ህ ፡ የሰደዱህልኝ ፡ ደብዳቤህ ፡ ደረስልኝ ። እላዚአብሔር ፡
ካገርህ ፡ በደኅና ፡ አድርሰህ ፡ ይላመ ፡ በደኅና ፡ መልሰህ ፡ ለመግ
ናኘት ፡ ያብቃኝ ። እገርህ ፡ ስትገባ ፡ ዘመዶችህ ፡ ደናፍቁህና ፡
ልዋል ፡ ልደር ፡ አትበል ፡ ችሉ ፡ እሙ ፡ መጣ ፡ ይሁኝ ። ያንትን
ም ፡ ነገር ፡ ኢጣልያኖች ፡ የሚያስቡብህን ፡ ደኅኑ ፡ መሸሸ
ም ፡ ነገረኝ ። ከእግላዲዞኑ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ቍሞውለኝ ፡ እናስዲቁለት ፡
ብለዋል ፡ አሉ ። ይህም ፡ ባይሆንላቸው ፡ በመርዝም ፡ ቢሆ
ን ፡ በብረ ፡ ግዛትው ፡ ይግዱሉላል ፡ ብዬ ፡ እስጋለሁ ። አሁን
ም ፡ በምንም ፡ በምን ፡ እንዳያገኙህ ፡ በውል ፡ እንድትጠነቀ
ቅ ፡ ይሁን ። እኔማ ፡ ይህንን ፡ ያሰማሁት ፡ ካዬ ድህ ፡ ወዲያ ፡ ሆ
ነና ፡ ነው ፡ እንጂ ፡ ሰትሂዱ ፡ አስቸጋሚ ፡ ሰምቼ ፡ ቢሆን ፡ አል
ስድህ ፡ ነበር ። ወሐምሌ ፡ በ፲፮ቱ ፡ ጉዲስ ፡ አበባ ፡ ከትማ ፡ ች
ሻሬ ። በ፲፯ የ፹ ፫ ዓመተ ፡ ምሕረት ።

075. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Djibouti 6 August 1891

የሙላክ ፡ ክመሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ል ግ ፡ ዩ ዮ ረ ስ ፡ ክራ ስ ፡
ፀዐ ክሙ ን ን ፡ መ ዮ ሷ ኔ ፡ ቀ ላ ም ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ይ ስ ጥ ል ኝ ፡
ዝ ዮ ፡ ኽ ይ ፡ ክ ና ሣ ለ ሁ ፡ ሥ ይ ጥ ን ፡ ሥ ን ዲ ት ፡ ና ው ፡
ኽ ኔ ፡ በ ክ ግ ዚ ኣ ብ ሐ ር ፡ ቸ ረ ነ ት ፡ በ ር ስ ም ፡
ው ቃ ቤ ፡ በ ደ ና ፍ ፡ ጂ ቡ ቲ ፡ ገ ባ ሁ ፡ ነ ገ ፡ ወ ደ ፡
አ ቦ ክ ፡ መ ሽ ገ ረ ፡ ና ው ።
ሐ ኪ ም ፡ ት ራ ዊ ር ሲ ፡ ሰ ደ ላ ፡ ገ ቡ ፡ ኣ ሉ ኝ ፡
የ ን ጉ ሥ ፡ ም ም በ ር ቻ ፡ ደ ብ ዲ ቤ ፡ ይ ዞ ፡ መ ጡ ፡
ይ ላ ሉ ። ደ ህ ን ን ፡ ወ ረ ፡ ቢ ስ ወ የ ፡ ኽ ይ ፡ ን ረ መ ኝ ፡
ክ ጂ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ሉ ጣ ል ት ፡ የ ሄ ይ ፡ ደ ግ ም ፡ ለ መ ለ መ ለ ሽ
ኽ ኔ ም ፡ ኽ ን ን ዲ ህ ፡ መ ዲ ፡ ኣ ን ረ ፡ ም ሄ ይ ፡
ና ው ። ኣ ን ረ ፡ ክ ዲ ረ ስ ሁ ፡ ደ ብ ዲ ቤ ፡ ኣ ል ክ
በ ዋ ለ ሁ ።
ኽ ግ ዚ ኣ ብ ሐ ር ፡ በ ዲ ና ፡ ደ ግ ነ ኙ ን ።
ጂ ቡ ቲ ፡ በ ዘ ም ሌ ፡ በ ሽ ታ ኛ ፡ ሥ ዱ ፡



076. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 8 September 1891

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ይድረስ ፡ ከ ዲግማየ ፡ ያመሩልክ ፡
ሠይመ ፡ ኣግዚኣብሔር ፣ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፣ ዘኢትዮጵያ ።
መድኃኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ወልደ ፡ ዳዊት ፡ ይሰጥልኝ ፡ ዝዙ ፡ አፅ ፣ አነሣላለሁ ።
ጀነሃይ ፣
በሐምሌ ፡ በ፲፰ ፡ ኑ ፡ የተጻፈ ፡ ደብዳቤ ፡ ደረሰልኝ ፡ አፅንጉነ ፣
ኣግዚኣብሔር ፡ ይስጥልኝ ። ላሸከርሙ ፡ ይህነን ፡ አሃል ፡ ይሩና ፡
አሰብሀልን ፡ ለአይ ፡ አፅግ ፡ ደሰ ፡ አለኝ ። ገና ፡ ጂዙቲ ፡ ሲደርስ ፣
ወይ ፡ አይነ ፡ ወይ ፡ ዘይላ ፡ ይጣን በቁሃል ፡ ሲሉ ፡ ሰማሃሙ ። ኢንግሊዞች ፣
የኢጣሊያኖች ፡ ወይ ፅ ፡ ሆኑ ፣ ከ፩ዚይ ፡ ተሰማሃመ ። ዘይላ ፣ አነነኪን ፡
ኢጣሊያኖች ፡ ሲሰጡ ፡ ነው ፣ ይባላል ። በዘይላ ፡ በኩል ፡ ይግባም ፡
ለጀነሃይ ፡ በዙ ፡ ሑነኞል ፡ ደሰባሉ ። የጋይቡርሲ ፡ ሽጉጣች ፡
የሰማሊ ፡ ሹመች ፡ ከራስ ፡ ማከ፦ነነ ፡ አንዚይራጅ ፡ ቢአደረጉ ፡
ለመልካም ፡ ነበር ። ይግባም ፡ ሐራር ፡ ላይ ፡ ሑነኞለችች ፡ አሉ ፡
ሌራስ ፡ ሰማነጉን ፡ አደራ ፡ ይበሉ ። ክፉ ፡ ሰላዪች ፡ አዘደ ፡ አሉ ።
ከፍራንሳዊ ፡ ሚኒስትሮች ፡ ብደሃነ ፡ ሑነነኝሁ ። የጀነሃይ ፡
ያመልክት ፡ መነያመ ፡ የለሽያመ ፡ ቢደርሻለሁ ። ነገር ፡ ግን ፡ ጀንሃይ ፡
ዘረ ፡ ይሐበይቤ ፡ ያመላክቹ ፡ ለወሰነ ፣ ነገር ፡ መለሽ ፡ አነኑ ፡
ሃገኩ ፡ ተስራ ፡ ማደረግው ፡ ነጪር ደለሁ ። ጀንሃይ ፡ ከሂትኛ ፡
ናቹ ፡ ዘረ ፡ ከ ኢጣሊያ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ነገ ፡ ከ ፍራንሳዊ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ከ ነገ ፡
ወደሃ ፡ ከ ኢንግሊዞች ፡ ጋሬ ፡ ገንዘብ ፡ አነሂገኩ ፡ ወደ ፅ ፡
ይሆናሉ ፡ አ፦ጣሊያኖች ፡ ደወራሉ ፡ ለሉኝ ፡ ይህነን ፡ ነነር ፡
ሁሉ ፡ አውሽት ፡ ነው ፡ አለኽኩው ። ጀነሃይ ፡ ነነን ዘብ ፡ አይኮ
ገረያስ ፡ መነግሥትች ፡ መሥሃ ፡ ቢሰሃሳችው ፡ ነነን ዘብ ፡ ነው ፡
ብሉ ፡ አለይተያመ ። ደግሞ ፡ ጀንሃይ ፡ ከኤውሮፓ ፡ መንግሥት ፡
ሲላላኩ ፡ ሌሁሉንያመ ፡ ነገር ፡ ሂግ ፡ ነው ፡ የክርስቲያን ፡ መንግሥ

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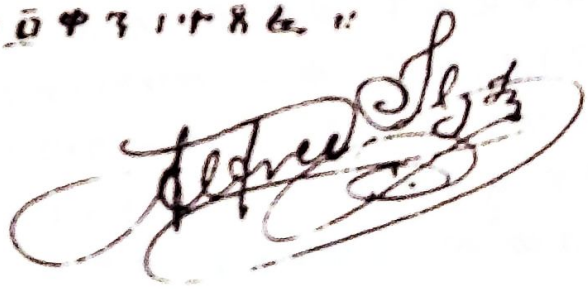
ነገር፡ነው።ተገቅሬ፡ዚፈለጉ፡ዛሬ፡ሂረስ፡ሻቁመት፡
ሙሉ፡ሰም፡በሉ፡ሳጽን፡ውስኖ፡ካላስቁመጡም፡ነብር፡
የመጀመርሄ፡ክፈል፡ለሺንሆሂ፡ከኪላ፡ብርቱ፡ነገር፡
ነው።ሀነገው፡ሂተዘለ፡ኽስክ፡ዛሬ፡ሂረስ፡ፅፍኡነሰዊ፡
ካስቸገር፡አውቀም።መረት፡ሊገሩ፡መጥቱ፡አውቁም፡
ዘኢትውደደ፡የተገዛ፡መረት፡የፍሬሰዊ፡ነው፡ከደጣለም።
ሺንሆይ፡ኸንዲጠበቅ፡ደለል፡ኸ[1]ሺ።ምጣበቅላ፡የለየነገም።
ድነ፡ሺንሆይ፡ይጠበቃሉ፡ኸንኪን፡ከሩቅ፡ካገር፡የመጡት፡
ኸንግሺ።የሺሁቲ፡ነገር፡ኸንድ፡ወግ፡ሆነ፡ቢጠየቃቹ፡
ኸኛላ፡ቸገረን፡አሉኝ።ለሺንሆይ፡የሰጠን፡ኸንድ፡ሆነ፡
በላየገሥት፡ሌላ፡መንግሥት፡ይግባበታል።አለዚደ፡ስርቅ፡
የጠር፡መርከብ፡ና፡ወሯይሮች፡ደስፈለጋል።ለነፍት፡ና፡
ሰካርቱሽ፡ኸኛ፡ኸስክለን፡ይረሰ፡ክውሰዱ።ኸስክ፡ዛረ፡
ይረሰ፡ካልክለክልን፡ከዛሬ፡ወደይ፡ለመክልክል፡አና
ስብም።የሺንሆይ፡ቦታ፡ከባህር፡ዊር፡ቢናር፡ኸንኪን፡
በጠር፡ጌዚ፡የጦር፡ምሣርደ፡ኸንቢይአገቡ፡ለም
ከልክል፡የጦር፡መርከብ፡ደለ፡መንግሥት፡አይቸገረውም፡
ይህንን፡ሁሉ፡ለሺንሆይ፡ምጫል፡ካርስዋን፡ና፡ካገርዋኑ፡
ይወድ፡ሺንሆይ፡ከይቀጡኝ፡ከጥሩ፡ልቤ፡ነው፡ሚነግርም።
ኸሳዚአብሔር፡ኸርስዋን፡አገርዋን፡ይጠበቅልኝ።
በዙሪክ፡ከተማ፡በጸሳፊ፡በይቀን፡ተጸፈ።



077. Alfred Ilg to Mašašā Warqē
Zurich 8 September "1891"

Plattenstrasse 13
Zürich

የተላከ ፡ ከ ወሎ ፡ ኪሐተ ፡ ዩሂረሰ ፡ ከ ሂሮ ገ/ማሪት ፡ መሸሻ ፡ ጌታዉ ፡ አቺጉነ ፡ አንደሮ ት ፡ ሰነ ዘጥ ፡ ኦኔ ፡ በአዋዲ አዛዘዴር ፡ ቅረነት ፡ በርሰዋ ፡ ውቃሬ ፡ በሂሳና ፡ አገሬ ፡ ገባሁ። ከ ሂረሰነሁ ፡ ዘገሳ ፡ ዲኣ ፡ ለዜ ፡ ጠ ጠመ ያመሁ ፡ ነገር ፡ ቀን ፡ ዘረሮ ፡ በጉ ፡ ነኝ ። በሐ ያመሉ ፡ በ፲፰ ቀን ፡ የ ሱዳ ፊ ፡ ሂዘ ሂ ዜ ው ፡ በ ሂሳና ፡ ሂረስ ልኝ ፡ አቺ ተ ፡ ደ ሰ ፡ አለኝ ። አሰቀደሚሰ ፡ ቢ ነግር ው ፡ አውነት ፡ አልጠሰነ ልው ፡ አንቹ ሌ ን ፡ አቺ ፡ ወ ሂቺ ፡ አ ደረ ጋቹ ፡ አኛ ን ፡ ሁሉ ፡ አሰነ ለ ቀሰ ኑ ። ግ ነ ዘ ዛ ፡ በ አ ጠመ ረኝ ፡ ጅን ሆደ ፡ ወደ ሰጠ ኝ ፡ አ ደ በ ታ ያ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ነ ሃ ር ፡ ግ ን ፡ የ ወ ደ አ ደ ፡ ሰ ው ፡ አ ደ ደ ለ ሁ ን ያ ፡ ሂ ሳ ና ው ነ ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ ደ ኝ ሬ ፡ በ ና ሩ ፡ ስ ወ ደ ፡ አ ፍ ራ ለ ሁ ። ኪ ጠ ሊ ደ ና ች ፡ ሑ ነ አ ሎ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ግ ና ፡ ፊ ት ፡ ሰ ነ ዓ ሁ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ግ ን ፡ አ ገ ዘ አ ዛ ዘ ዴ ር ፡ ዬ ጠ በ ቀ ኛ ል ። አ ሁ ነ ፡ ደ ግ ሞ ፡ ሐ ኪ ያ ዉ ፡ ሱ ራ ዊ ር ሲ ፡ ው ጡ ፡ ሰ ወ ሁ ፡ ኣ ር ሱ ን ፡ ለ ወ ዉ ነ ፡ ደ ሰ ደ ታ ል ፡ አ ና ነ ቱ ፡ ለ ሠ ባ ነ ፡ ሱ ቁ በ ላ ላ ቹ ፡ ሰ ደ በ ሉ ፡ ሄ ደ ፡ ለ ደ ሳ ና ነ ት ፡ አ ደ ረ ወ ለ ሰ ነ ሃ ው ። አ ባ ነ ገ ው ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ የ መ ሁ ኃ ኒ ት ፡ ሰ ጽ ነ ፡ ከ አ ቺ ቹ ፡ አ ደ ው ጣ ፡ ዲ ሱ ን ቁ ቋ ። አ ኔ ፡ አ ን ሃ ሂ ህ ፡ ሌ ላ ፡ ሰ ው ፡ የ ነ ካ ፡ ሰ ጽ ነ ፡ አ ል ነ ካ ው ።

ኪ ነ ጣ ሊ ዝ ፡ ና ፡ ቄ ጠ ሊ ያ ኖ ቹ ፡ ሑ ነ ለ ደ መ ፡ ሂ ባ ላ ል ። ዘ ደ ላ ፡ በ ኪ ጣ ሊ ደ ፡ አ ቺ ፡ ለ ሆ ነ ፡ ለ ጂ ን ሆ ደ ፡ አ ን ሰ በ ወ ለ ነ ፡ ሂ ፲ ፯ ኖ ፡ ክ ፈ ል ፡ ነ ገ ወ ደ ሃ ል ኝ ። ወ ደ ፡ ጅ ን ሆ ደ ፡ ገ ዘ ዴ ላ ና ፡ ሐ ራ ር ፡ ለ ነ ጉ ል ፡ የ ኢ ጣ ል ያ ፡ ጣ ሊ ነ ት ፡ ሰ ሊ ሦ ስ ሉ ። አ ለ ነ ነ ቹ ፡ ደ ሁ ን ቁ ቁ ፡ ዘ ረ ፡ አ ን ዘ ዘ አ ዛ ዘ ዴ ር ፡ አ ው ለ ነ ቹ ፡ ሂ ዳ ግ ም ኖ ፡ አ ን ዘ ዘ አ ዛ ዘ ዴ ር ፡ ሂ ው ል ል ። ፍ ራ ን ሳ ዊ ፡ ሊ ና ን ት አ ጅ ግ ፡ ሂ ሳ ና ፡ ሰ ሰ ለ ሉ ። አ ነ ዘ ሂ ደ ፡ ሌ ላ ፡ መ ነ ገ ሥ ት ፡ ከ ሸ ር ለ ቹ ፡ ሲ ሆ አ ደ ወ ቹ ያ ፡ ኪ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፡ ሂ ሽ ለ ና ል ፡ ይ ሉ ።

የ ሚ ሆ ኑ ን ፡ ጉ ዲ ደ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ከ ዚ ህ ፡ አ ሰ ላ ሳ ሪ ፡ ኑ ኒ ጅ ፡ ነ ና ን ት ፡ አ ንድ ፡ ገ ደ ቢ ፡ አ ይ ጸ ፉ ል ኝ ። አ ለ ክ ያ ፡ ሄ ር ሶ ያ ፡ [illegible] ል ኝ ። አ ገ ዘ አ ዛ ዘ ዴ ር በ ሂ ሳ ና ፡ ደ ግ ና ኙ ን ። ሰ ራ ክ ፡ በ ጽ ኅ ፈ ፡ በ ፲፱ ቀ ን ፡ ሱ ዳ ፊ ሙ

078. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Zurich 11 September 1891

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የተላከ ፡ ከጠሩሴ ፡ አ.ልግ ፡ ይ.ሂ:ረስ ፡ ከሉስ ፡ መኩንን ፡ መ.ድኃኔ ፡ ዋለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ይሰጥልኝ ፡ ብዙ ፡ አ.ሂ ፡ አሳሣለሁ ፡ አ.ሂ.ጉን ፡ አንዲት ፡ ሰነበቱ ፡ አኔ ፡ በአግዚአብሔር ፡ቸረኑት ፡ በይሳና ፡ አገራ ፡ ሂረሰሁ ። አ.ፍራንሳዊ ፡ አገር ፡ መ.ሴ ፡ ላጋርዱ ፡ አገኝሁ ፡ የሁሉንም ፡ ነገር ፡ ተፈጸመልኝ ። የጂጭቱ ፡ ነገር ፡ ቸኑ ፡ አ.ይሆነም ፡ ይመስለኛል ፡ አርሰው ፡ መር ይ ፡ ሳ.ፍ ፡ ለሳ.ፍ ፡ ሊገናኙ ፡ ይሻላል ፡ ይመስለኛል ፡ በሂብ ይሬ ፡ ወንም ፡ አያልቅም ። የወሰኑ ፡ ነ.ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ በጣም ፡ ሊ አስረግቱ ፡ መልካም ፡ ነበር ። ነግ ፡ ስልስት ፡ አንዲግራኙ ፡ ጉ.ይ ፡ ደብላሽል ፡ አንጂ ፡ አያቁ ናም ። አርሰው ፡ ሂብ ቤ ፡ ሊ አ.ብኝ ፡ ይስ ፡ በሉኝ ፡ ነበር ፡ ደግኘሁት ፡ ወረ ፡ አልአብቀለሁ ፡ ሊሙ ፡ ለወንም ፡ ወኝ ፡ የኔ ፡ ይ.ብ ይ ቤ ፡ አ.ሙሰ ቂ ። ሊመይ.ት ፡ ልብ ፡ አይረጉ ፡ ሊጣሉት ፡ ይ.ብ ይ ቤ ፡ አ.ቀ ጠሉ ፡ ነግር ፡ ኝ ፡ ሌወንም ፡ ኝ ፡ አ.ሙሰ ቂ ። አኔም ፡ ሊናንት ፡ በሺ ዓሆይ ፡ ጉይ ፡ ብዙ ፡ ቀጉሂሁ ፡ የመ ከዘነልኝ ፡ ይሰም ።

አግዚአብሔር ፡ በይሳና ፡ ይግኑን ።

ሁሪክ ፡ በመስከረም ፡ ሂ.ሳነስ ፡ አለት ፡ ሥጻ ፡ ሺአ.ፎ.ፀ ።

Alfred Ilg

079. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 13 September 1891

ሞዓ ፡ አግበሻ ፡ ዘአምኑግያ ፡ ይሁ ያ ፡ ዳግ ማዊ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡ ሠይመ ፡ እግ
ዚአብሔር ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵ ያ ። ያ ይረሲ ፡ ከሙ
ሲ ፡ ኢልግ ። እግ ያች ፡ ከ ርመ ሐ ል ፡ እኔ ፡ እግ ዚአብ ሔር ፡ ያመስ
ግን ፡ ያኣና ፡ ኑኝ ። አስካሁ ን ፡ ይሬስ ፡ ከዓ ሐር ፡ ያ ር ፡ በ ያኣና ፡ መ
ይረ ስ ክን ፡ ምኑ ሡ ፡ ሰት ፡ ል ክብ ኝ ። ለሁ ን ም ፡ ያ ኣኣ ኑ ትህን ፡
ላክብ ኝ ። ለ ል ጅ ኾ ህና ፡ ለ ቤት ህ ፡ አ ታ ሰ ለ ነ ፡ ሁሉ ም ፡ ያ ኣና ፡
ና ች ሡ ። ። እኛ ዳት ዘግ ኢ ፡ ሓ ሎ ፡ እግ ዩ ት መጣ ፡ ያ ሁን ። በመስ
ከ ረ ም ፡ በ ር ቅ ኝ ፡ በ ፲ ፲ ፩ ፬ ፬ ዓ መ ት ፡ ምሕ ረ ት ፡
በእ ጊጢ ፡ ክ ት መ ፡ ት ጸ ፈ ።

080. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 14 September 1891

3/10/12.

የ·ኮሳክ፡ ኻ·ግራ·ዝ·ማች፡ የ·ሴ·ፍ፡ ይ·ድረ·ስ፡ ነ·መ·ኤ ኢ·ል·ግ፡
ነ·ጌ·ት፡ ከ·ረ·መ፡ እ·ኔ፡ ነ፡ ግ·ዚ·አ·ብ·ሔ·ር፡ ይ·መ·ሰ·ገ·ን፡ ደ
·ኅ·ና፡ ነ·ኝ፡ ደ·ብ·ዳ·ቤ ይ·ም፡ ይ·ረ·ስ·ል·ኝ፡ የ·መ·ኴ፡ ሸ·ፍ·ኔ
ኀ·ም፡ ነ·ገ·ር·፡ እ·ቅ·ና፡ ■ ጅ፡ ቡ·ቲ፡ ብ·ሂ·ኅ·ና፡ መ·ድ·ረ·ስ·ይ·ን፡
ሰ·ማ·ን፡ እ·ገ·ር ይ፡ ሲ·ግ·ቡ፡ ሂ·ነ·ኀ·ነ·ት·ይ·ኀ·ኛ፡ የ·የ·ው·ሮ·ም፡ ወ·ሬ፡
ይ·ላ·ኩ·ብ·ኝ፡ ሐ·ኪ·ም፡ ጉ·ራ·በ·ር·ሴ፡ ሐ·ረ·ር፡ ኅ·ብ፡ እ·ሱ·ን፡
ኽ·ን·ሶ·ጠ፡ ሲ·ግ·ባ፡ ጠ·ለ·ሰ·ን፡ እ·ኀ·ሰ·ይ·ዋ·እ·ን፡ ·ብ·ጸ·ዋ·ል፡ ይ·ኝ
ሁ·ይ·። የ·ኤ·ጣ·ሊ·ያ፡ መ·ን·ግ·ሥ·ት፡ ከ·ኤ·ት·ዮ·ጵ·ያ፡ ጋ·ራ፡ ነ·ን·ዋ
ጋ፡ ጥ·ቅ·ዱ ል·ን፡ ·በ·ለ·ው፡ ለ·የ·ው·ሮ·ም፡ ነ·ን·ግ፡ ሥ·ል·ት፡ ላ·ኩ፡ የ
·ጦ·ሪ·ላ፡ ·ሠ·ራ፡ ·ወ·ደ·ፊ·ት·ሁ·ይ፡ ·ኅ·ሳ·ክ፡ የ·ዚ·ህ·ች፡ መ·ራ፡ እ·ር·ግ·ጡ
·ን፡ ይ·ላ·ኩ·ብ·ን፡ መ·ኴ፡ ·ሸ·ፍ·ኔ፡ የ·ሚ·ገ·ዘ·ልኝ·ን፡ ·ቴ·ም፡ ይ·ዘ·ው·ል
·ኝ፡ ይ·ም·ለ·ኩ·ት፡ ነ·ገ·ር፡ ግ·ጌ·ታ·ሎ፡ ·ቢ·መ·ለ·ኩ፡ መ·ል·ካ·ም፡ ነ·በ·ር፡
ኗ ይ·ገ·ራ·ኽ·ን፡ መ·ሬ፡ ይ·ህ፡ ነ·ው፡ ·ትግ·ርኛ፡ ቦ·ራ፡
ፅ·ዓ·ድ·ረ·ስ፡ ይ፡ መ·ጣ·ሉ፡ ኺ·ን·ሆ·ይ·ም፡ የ·ጣ·ሊ·ኛ·ን፡ ቤ·ት፡ ·ክ·ር·ስ
·ቲ·ያ·ን፡ ለ·ጣ·ሊ·ኛ·ኑ·ና፡ ·ትግ·ርኛ·ን፡ ለ·መ·ቀ·በ·ል፡ ይ·ሄ·ዱ·ራ·ክ፡
·መ·ጓ·ጓ·ዥ፡ የ·ሚ·ያ·ነ·ሣ·ኩ፡ ይ·መ·ክ·ላ·ሉ፡ ·ትግ·ርኛ፡ ·ሁ·ሉ፡ እ·ኮ
·ራ·ርቀ·ው፡ እ·ን·ዲ·ነ·ት፡ ሁ·ኔ·ቀ·ል፡ ይ·በ·ጠ·ም፡ ይ፡ ጂ·ኛ፡ ·ክ·በ·ሐ·ት·ሞ·ክ
·ራ·ስ፡ ·መ·ነ·ገ·ሽ፡ ጋ·ራ፡ ·ታ·ረ·ቁ፡ ኢ·ጣ·ሊ·ያ·ኖ·ች·ን፡ ·ነ·ጌ·ሙ·ን፡ ይ·ዋ·ጉ·
·ል·ን፡ ·በ·ለ·ው፡ የ·ራ·ስ፡ መ·ነ·ገ·ሻ·ዬ፡ ·ቍ·ር·ኻ፡ ባ·ሳ፡ ·ሁ·ለ·ኮ፡ መ·ጥ·ሎ፡
·ነ·በ·ር። ጂ·ን·ሆ·ይ·ም፡ የ·ጠ·ነ·ዱ·ን፡ ·ቀ·ሩ፡ ር·ጥ፡ ·ኣ·ሰ·ካ·ው·ቅ፡ ድ·ረ·ስ፡ ·ነ·በ·ር፡
·እ·ጁ፡ ·እ·ን·ዳ·ዬ·ህ·ስ፡ በ·ጣ·ም፡ በ·ሎ·ዋ·ት·ው፡ ·በ·ለ·ው፡ ላ·ኩ።
ራ·ስ፡ ዘ·ው·ዱ·ና፡ ራ·ስ፡ ወ·ሌ·ሁ·ጣ·ሉ·ሦ·ው፡ ራ·ኩ፡ ·ነ·ው·ዱ፡ ·ል·ኩ፡ ·ሽ·ፈ·ቱ፡
ጦ·ር፡ ·ታ·ዝ·ዘ·እ·ነ·ራ·ስ፡ ሚ·ካ·ኤ·ል·ና፡ ·እ·ነ·ራ·ስ፡ መ·ጓ·ጓ·ዝ፡ ካ·ር·ኔ·ና·ራ·ር፡
እ·ስ·ፋ·ው፡ ይ·ጂ·ኝ፡ ወ·ል·ዱ፡ ·ሊ·ሄ·ሉ·ል፡ ራ·ስ፡ ዘ·ው·ዱ·ሬ፡ ይ·ም፡ ·አ·ለ·ሽ·ፉ·ት
·ሁ·ም፡ ·በ·ለ·ው፡ ·ል·ኩ·ዋ·ል፡ ኺ·ን·ሆ·ይ·ም፡ ·ጣ·ባ፡ ·ክ·ለ·ው፡ ·ላ·ኩ·ባ·ች·ው·
ቍ·ር·ጡ፡ ·ነ·ና፡ ·ነ·ው። ·ጎ·ኑ·ሥ፡ ·ኮ·ነ·ለ·ላ·ኀ፡ ይ·ፀ·ፃ·ሉ·ት፡ ·ከ·ፋ·ን፡ ·ጫ·ር·ቻ
·ው፡ ·ሻ·ን·ቃ·ላ፡ ይ·ረ·ሱ። ደ·ጀ·ች፡ ወ·ል·ዱ፡ ጌ·ቦ·ር·ጌ·ስ፡ የ·ኮ·ነ·ኔ·ል·ነ·ና፡
የ·ኮ·ሎ·ኔ·ል፡ ·ጎ·በ·ር፡ ይ·ሰ·ደ·ስ·ል፡ ያ·ገ·ራ·ኽ·ን፡ መ·ሬ፡ ይ·ህ፡ ነ·ው።
ደ·ጀ·ዝ·ማ·ች፡ ·ኮ·ሎ·ኔ·ል፡ ኺ·ን·ሆ·ይ·ም፡ ለ·ጣ·ሊ·ኮ·ች፡ እ·ጁ·ስ፡ እ·በ·ጣ·
መ·ሮ ይ·ው፡ እ·ነ·ጋ·ር·ራ·ቸ·ው፡ ·ዘ·ለ·ሉ። የ·ሊ·ኦ·ኮ·ው፡ እ·ያ·ከ·ቢ፡ ·ከ·ለ·ሚ·ኮ·ር—
ጌ፡ ጋ·ራ፡ ·ኮ·ጣ·ሉ·ው፡ ነ·በ·ር፡ ·ታ·ረ·ቁ። ሃ·ኃ·ያ·ኮ·ሽ·ነ·ጠ·ነ·ው፡ ይ·ሰ·ሳ
·ሩ·ን፡ ·ነ፡ ·ሥ·፡ ·ነ·ቤ·ት·ም፡ ·ጥ·ሪ·ት፡ እ·ለ·ን·ጋ፡ ·ቀ·መ·ኑ፡ እ·ኛ፡ ·ዘ·ለ·ለ·ን፡ እ
·ስ·ኪ·ለ·፡ ሃ·ረ·ስ፡ ኺ·ን·ሆ·ይ·፡ ፣ ይ·ው·ላ፡ ·ጥ·ራ·ና፡ እ·ዙ·ፍ·ቀ·ለ·ሳ
·ት·ው·ን፡ ·ሰ·ጡ·ኮ·ች·ሚ፡ ·ኮ·ለ·ን·ነ፡ እ·ን·በ·ጣ፡ ·ከ·ላ·ው፡ የ·ም·ዐ·ረ·ፃ
·ን፡ ነ·ገ·ር፡ ·ኻ·ዛ·ን·ር፡ ·ዘ·ዛ·ብ·ዘ፡ ·ጋ·ራ፡ ·ከ·ኺ·ን·ሆ·ይ·፡ ·ፊ·ት፡ ·መ·ሬ·ዳ·ሁ፡
የ·ም ·ድ·ረ·ጋ፡ ·እ·ዚ·ለ፡ ·ሁ·ሉ፡ ·ጣ·ሊ·ኮ·ሩ·ይ፡ ·ነ·ው፡ እ·ር·ስ·ዋ·፡ ·ሂ·ን·ና፡

ይመጡ፡ እነ፱ፈ፡ ለ ጠ፱ኻ ው፡ አ ያስቡ፡ እኔ፡ ከለሁ፡ አግዚአ፡ብሔር፡ በ፱ነ ና፡ ለ ወ ጠ ግ ጥ ኔ ት፡ ደ፡ብ ቃ ኝ ። በ ጠ ለ ከ ረ ው፡ ከ ፀ ፡ ቀ ን ፡ በ፲ ፫ ኛ ፀ ፡ በ እ ነ ሶ ለ ን፡ ፡ ጻ ፈ ፡፡

081. Walda Ṣādeq & Robā to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 16 "September" 1891

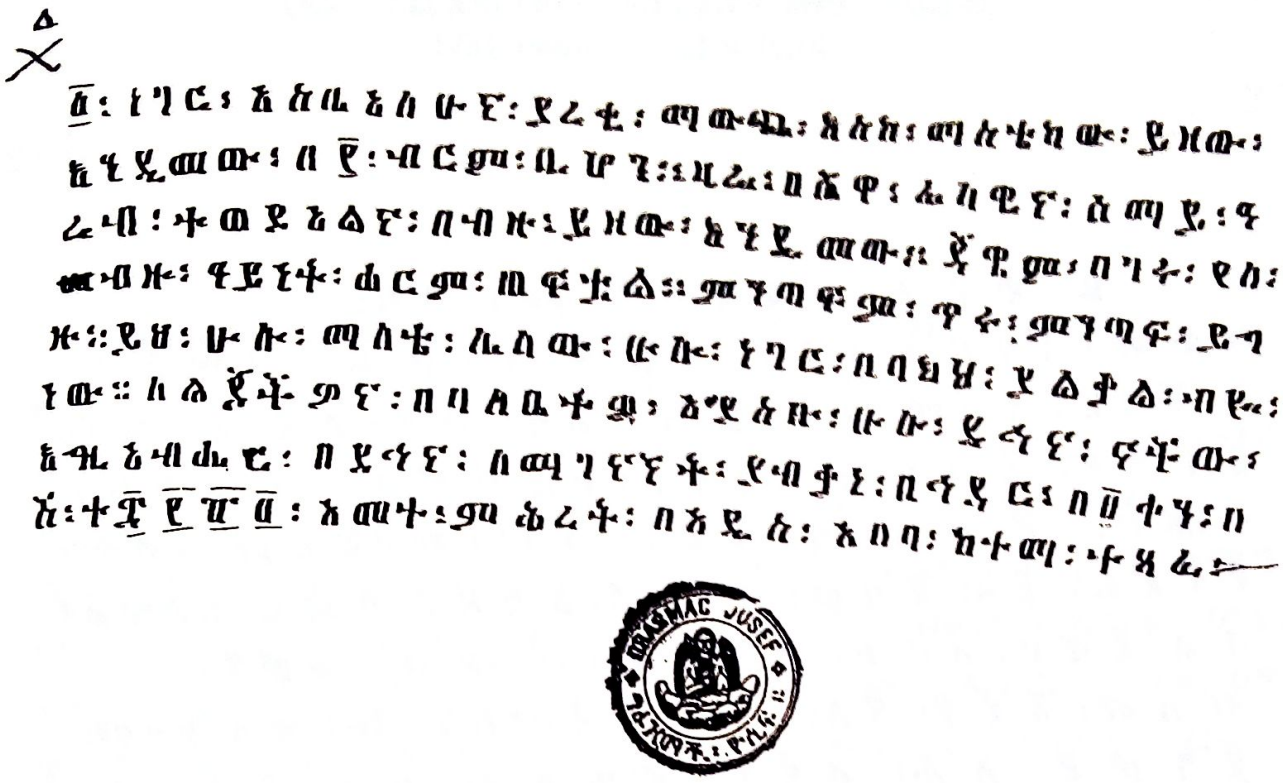
ዊ ሁ ረ ሰ፡ ጌ ቱ ዬ፡ ነ ባ ቱ ። ነ ሀ ሂ ያ ሰ ው ል ኝ ፡ አ ሰ ላ ኪ ፡
ሰ ው ር ፡ እ ነ ሰ ጠ ኝ ፡ እ ባ ቱ ፡ ነ ሙ ሉ ፡ እ ል ግ ፡ ጌ ቱ ዬ ፡
ጤ ና ፡ ሀ ሰ ጥ ል ኝ ፡ ላ ዩ ፡ ፲ ፲ ፣ ዛ ዚ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሰ አ ፊ ሁ ፡ ኑ ሂ ኑ ን ፡
ነ ዙ ው ን ፡ እ ነ ዊ ት ፡ ነ ር ሀ ነ ቀ ል ፡ ጌ ቱ ዬ ፡ የ መ መ ዋ ን ፡ ወ ሌ ፡
ነ ሰ ጣ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ኦ ዘ ኙ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ዚ ግ ም ም ፡ የ የ ዚ ህ ነ ት ን ፡
ወ ሌ ፡ ላ ሰ ጠ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ እ ነ ዊ ፡ ነ ር ሰ ዱ ሰ ፡ ተ ን ሣ ዩ ዬ ፡ ዊ ስ ፡ አ ፊ ኝ ፡
ጊ ታ ዬ ፡ የ ጸ ፍ ል ኝ ፡ የ ነ በ ረ ፡ ወ ረ ቀ ት ፡ ዚ ረ ሰ ኝ ፡ ጣ ዚ ፡ ነ ር ሰ ዋ ፡ ▬ ፡
እ ር ሰ ዋ ን ፡ ባ ኧ ል ፡ ያ ን ጥ ሦ ፡ ለ ዘ ሰ ፊ ኝ ። እ ሁ ን ም ፡ ጌ ቱ ዬ ፡ ያ ን ራ ችን ፡
ወ ሌ ፡ ል ጀ ች ም ፡ ያ ሕ ና ፡ ና ን ፡ ለ ሙ ፡ ነ ጣ ረ ቢ ቱ ች ን ፡ የ መ ጣ ፡ ሰ ው ፡
ጠ የ ቅ ሁ ፡ ወ ረ ፡ ጀ ን ሆ ያ ፡ ቦ ራ ፡ ወ ዲ ያ ፡ ዘ ወ ቱ ፡ እ ሬ ሰ ፡ ዘ ው ዲ ፡
ሽ ፍ ፋ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ እ ሬ ሰ ፡ እ ጎ ሰ ፡ ያ ዙ ት ። እ ሬ ሰ ፡ መ ኩ ን ነ ና ፡ እ ሬ ሰ ፡
ያ ር ጊ ፡ እ ጎ ጠ ጠ ፡ ተ ሳ ያ ው ሉ አ ኩ ፡ የ ሬ ሰ ፡ ዲ ር ጊ ፡ ጠ ር ፡ ነ ዲ ሴ ፡
ሽ ዋ ፡ ነ ባ ። እ ኔ ሩ ፡ ሠ ሙ ሰ ፡ ሰ ለ ር ጣ ር ፡ የ ወ ጡ ፡ ግ ዙ ፡ ት ሳ ፀ ሀ ፡
ቀ ሬ ሁ ፡ አ ነ ዊ ን ፡ በ ሳ ኩ ፡ ወ ነ ዷ ነ ፡ ኦ ን ሰ ሰ ፡ ሳ ዐ ት ፡ ነ ሳ ሰ ሬ ት ፡ ጌ ቻ ዬ ፡
እ ኛ ፡ እ ሮ ሶ ነ ፡ ሰ ነ ጠ ላ ቅ ፡ ተ ነ ሂ ኝ ፡ ሉ ፋ ሳ ጉ ን ሳ ዐ ፡ ነ ወ ራ ፡ ሀ ያ ሰ ፅ ፏ ፡
ሀ ሰ ለ ጡ ን ፡ አ ል ፡ ያ ው ሳ ዐ ፡ በ ለ ዘ ነ ሬ ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ሠ ሪ ለ ጡ ነ ፡ ያ ነ ሬ ጉ ን ፡
ነ ነ ር ፡ ኤ ለ ሰ ዋ ፡ ያ ለ ው ቆ ት አ ል ኅ ፡ እ ለ ጉ ባ ፣ ኦ ሀ ሆ ነ ሳ ዐ ፡ ሂ ሩ ፡ ሣ ነ ፡
ፋ ኩ ፡ ፋ ፍ ፡ ሀ ሰ ለ ጡ ነ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ የ ሳ ሂ ነ ሰ ለ ነ ለ ው ፡ ነ ነ ዘ ላ ፡ አ ለ ነ ኝ ፡
እ ር ሰ ዋ ፡ የ ሰ ለ ጡ ነ ነ ፡ ነ ነ ዘ ላ ፡ የ ሸ ለ ሀ ት ነ ፡ ፋ ሂ ነ ለ ው ፡ ት ህ ሌ ፡ ነ ለ ሙ ሴ ፡
ሰ ው ረ ፡ ነ ሬ ፡ ለ ለ ፡ ለ ል ሂ ፡ ለ ሳ ር ሂ ም ፡ እ ሱ ና ፡ ያ ቂ ላ ፡ ቢ ት ፡ ረ ኤ ሂ ፡
እ ር ሰ ዋ ፡ በ ፋ ኤ ፡ ሂ ለ መ ሙ ፡ እ ነ ዚ ፡ ሦ ነ ፡ ሠ ረ ሳ ት ፡ ል ኟ ቡ ቲ ሠ ሳ ፡ ከ ሐ ረ ር ኒ
ለ ሙ ሳ ፡ ለ ነ ኤ ፡ ሂ ፀ ፍ ል ኝ ፡ እ ነ ዚ ፡ ነ ሳ ለ ጣ ፡ መ ሴ ፡ ሰ ለ ር ሳ ሳ ር ፡
በ ሂ ሕ ና ፡ ሽ ዋ ፡ ነ ሱ ፡ ሂ ል እ ፡ ሰ ሸ ነ ር ቹ ፡ ሠ ል ዲ ፡ ጣ ዲ ቅ ና ፡
ሮ ባ ፡ ሉ ፀ ፋ ፡ ለ ነ ር ፡ በ ነ ባ ፡ ፲ ሳ ነ ፡ ሐ ረ ር ኒ ፡ ነ ሉ ሰ ጣ ፡

በ ፲ ፰ ፪ ፲ ፱ ፡ እ ሠ ላ ፡ ሳ ሕ ረ ት ፡ ሠ ነ ዜ ላ ዊ ፡ ሦ ሐ ነ ሰ ፡

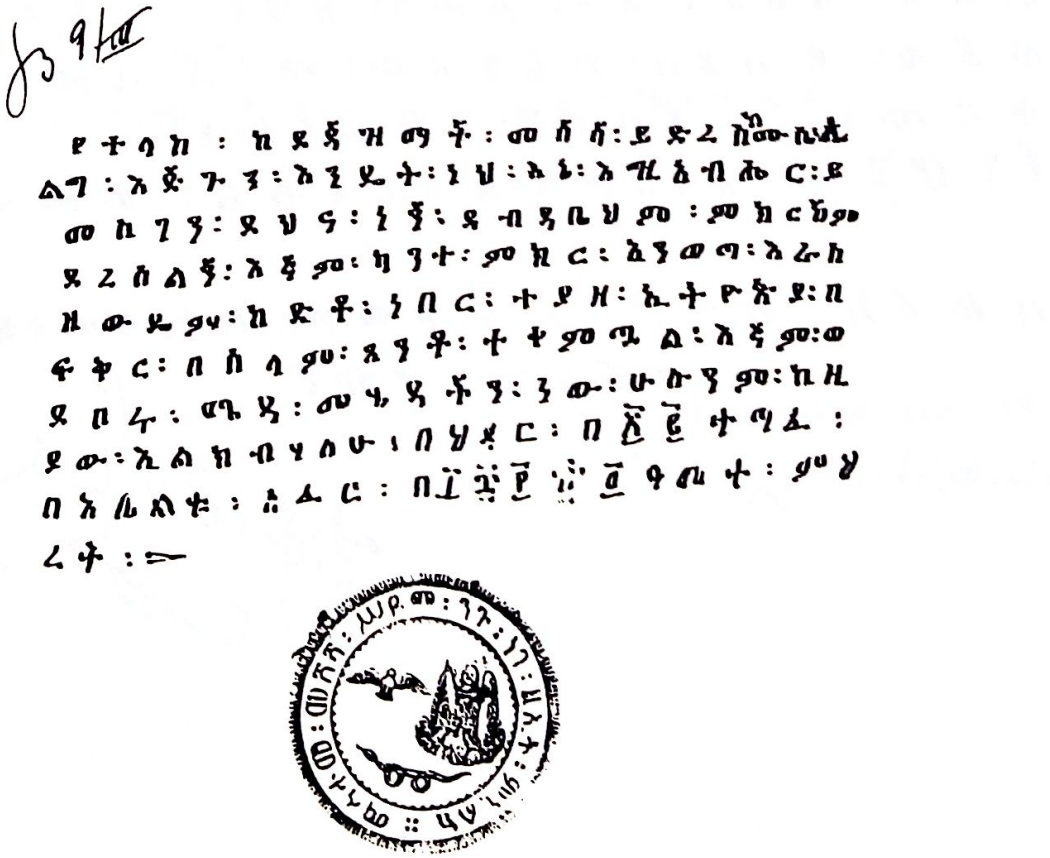
082. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 November "1891"

የተላከ፡ከእቴጌ፡ጣይቱ፡ብርሃን፡ዘኢትዮጵያ። ይድረሰ፡ከወሲ፡ኢልግ።
እግዚ፡ከርመሃል፡እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ይመሥገን፡ጤነኛ፡ነኝ።በጸጉዜ፡
በ፱ቀን፡የተጻፈ፡ደብዳቤህ፡የረሰልኝ። ወረ ውን፡ሁሉ፡ሰላ፡ጻፍክልኝ፡እ
ግዚአብሔር፡ይመስገን ህ። ኮንት፡እና ቶ ሊ፡ሙሴ፡ኢ ልግ፡በኢትዮጵያ፡
መረተ፡ሚስተር፡ሌጂት፡አሉት፡ብሉ፡ቢ ደወራ፡አልከፋ ም፡ነበር። ፈረሃኝ
ቹን፡ሁሉ፡ከጂንሆ ይ፡ጋራ፡ለጣጣሳት፡ይፈልጋል። የፈረንሲ ስና፡የንግሊ
ዝ፡ገን ዘብ፡ሲበላ፡ይ ኖራል፡ብሉ፡እያወራ፡ስሚን፡አሰበረው፡ያልከው፡በልኩ
ሳ፡እንዳያማህ፡ዊ ልኪኑ፡ወልዱ፡ሃሰ፡ዘመድ፡ያለ፡ጥላ፡በሽዋ፡መሬት፡ጥሎ፡
መሄዱን፡ያውቅ፡የለ ምን። መቼም፡የነዲያውና፡የተ ሸነፈ፡ጠላት፡የሚያና
ድድበት፡ነገር፡መፈለጉ፡ልማድ፡ነው። ያንተን ም፡ጥሩነት፡ፍጥረቱ፡ሁሉ፡
ያውቀዋል። እውነቱ ና፡ንጋቱ፡እያዳር፡ይገለጠልና፡በዚህ፡አትናደድ።
መታመምህን ም፡ሰማሁ። እግዚአብሔር፡ይማርህ። እንግሊዞችና፡ኢጣል
ያኖች፡በተንኮል፡ቢያስፈራሩን፡እነዚያን፡ፈርተን፡ያለብልሃቱ፡አገራቸንን፡
ይለቃሉ፡ብለህ፡አትስጋ። በእግዚአብሔር፡ኃይል፡እስካሁን፡ድረስ፡እምነ
ጮር፡አገራችንኮ እኛ ጃ፡እንዳትወጣ፡ጎልቆ፡ልልኝ። የመዘውሩ፡ማ
ረሽ፡ነገር፡ሞሎ፡እንዲመጣልን፡እንዴ፡ት ከልንበ ት፡አውቀኸዋል። አሁንም፡
ጧት፡ማታ፡ሀሰቤ፡በዚህ፡ነገር፡ነውና፡አዴራህን። በሳዳር፡በ፬ቀን፡ባደሰ፡
አበባ፡ከተማ፡ተጻፈ።

083. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 November 1891

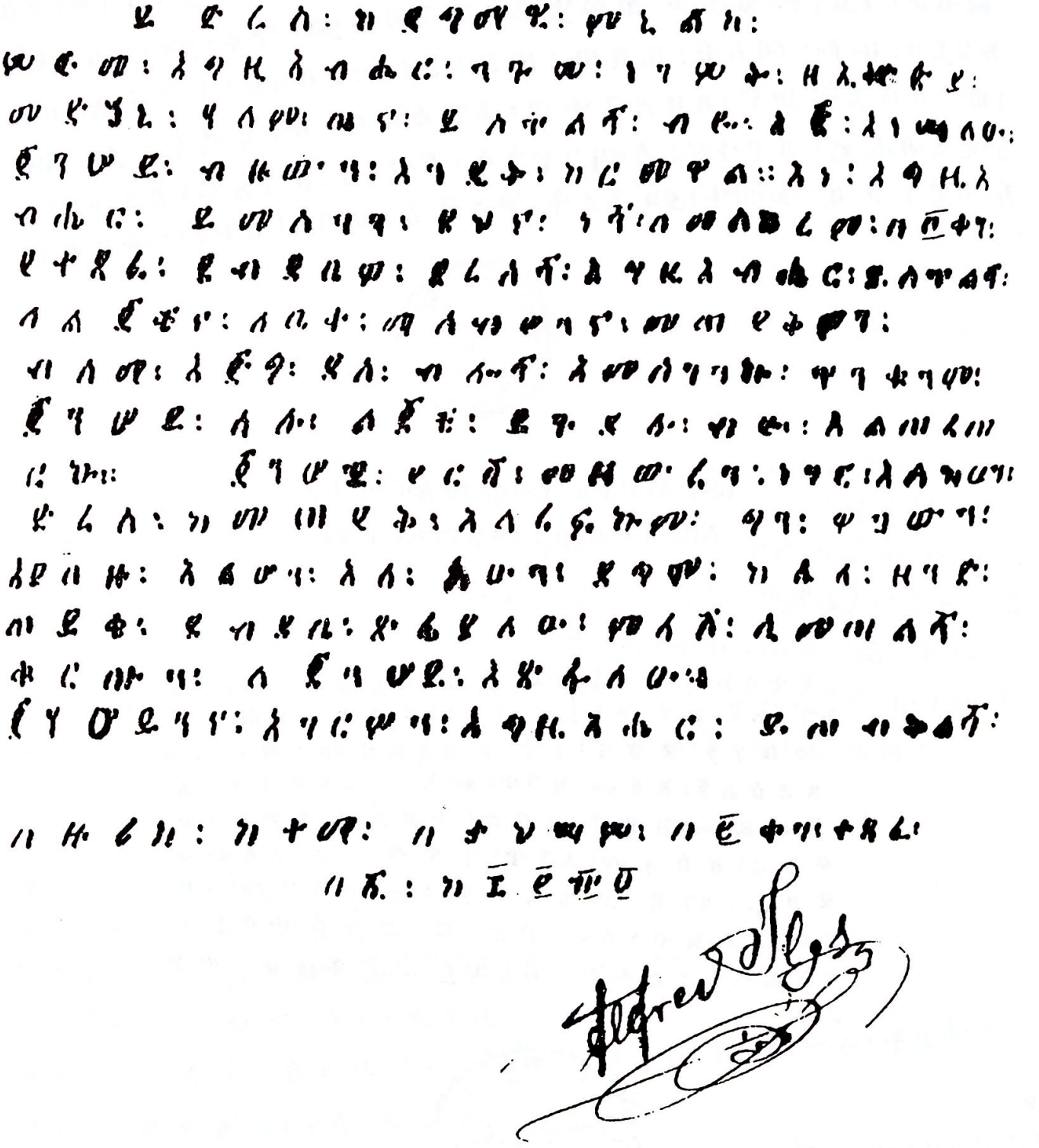


084. Mašašā Warqē to Alfred Ilg
Alēltu Camp 1 December 1891



085. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 11 December 1891

332



086. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Zurich 11 December "1891"

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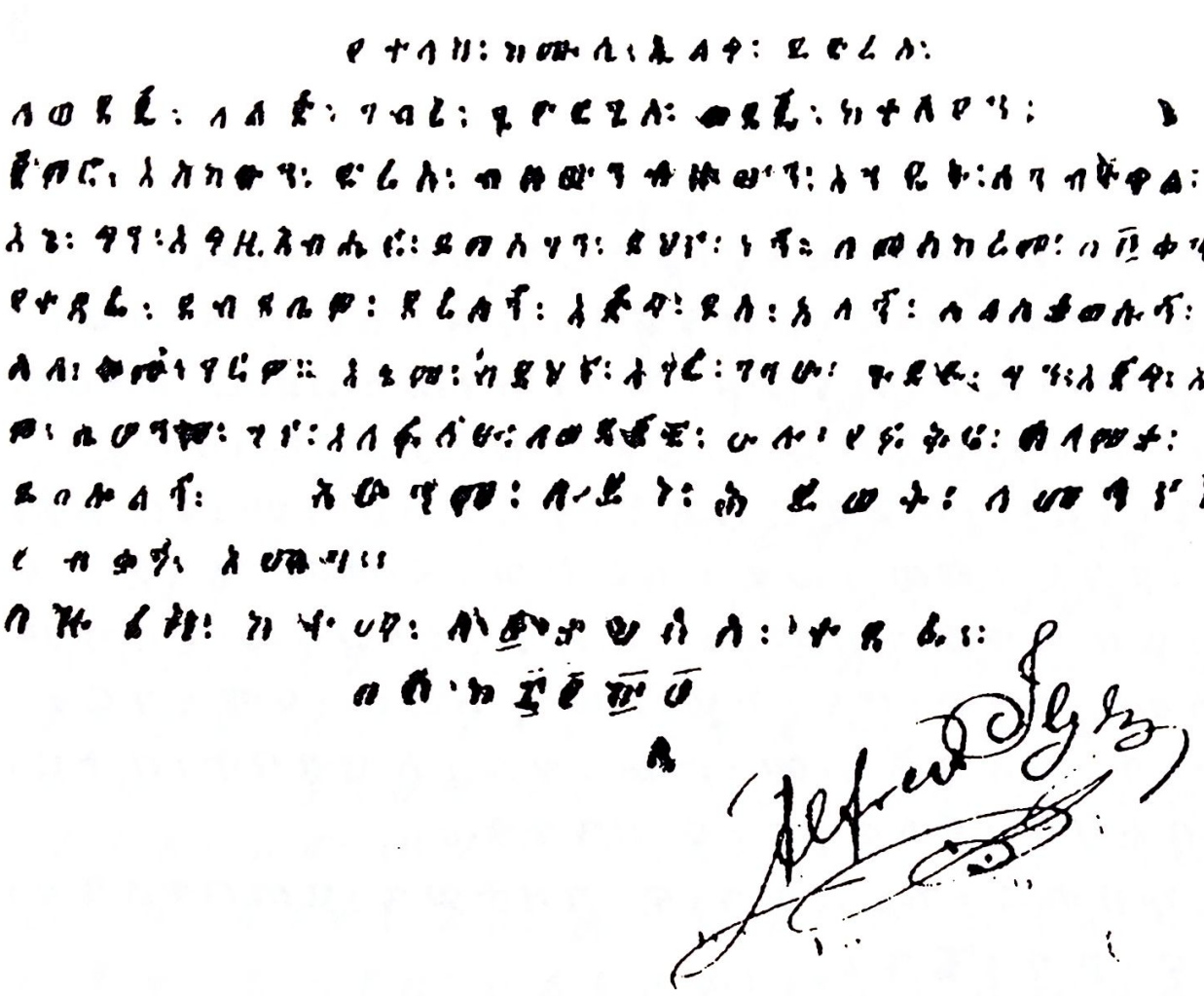
የሞላክ : ክሙሴ ፣ ኪልፃ ፣ ይዮሬስ : ክራስ : መኩንን ፣
መቋሴ ፣ ቀላም ፣ ጠና ፣ ዊስፕልኻ ፣ብዙ ፣ ኣጅ ፣ ኣነሣለሁ :
ኣጅ ጉሳ ፣ ኣጣሂ : ሰ ነጠቱ ፣ ኣኔ ፣ ኣጣዚ ኣብሔር : ይመስገኔ :
ሂሳና ፣ ነኻ ። ያ.ብዩ ቤያ ፣ ይልክ.ብኖለ ፣ብዙ ፣ ሞስቆ ፣
አዪረጌ ፣ ነበር ፣ ሰይዲርስልኻ ፣ ቀረ ። አሁጓም : ፃሮስማኔ :
ወሊለል : ያገፈ ፣ ሰው ፣ ወዲ ፣ ኣርስያ ፣ የመጣ : ኣጣዩ : ሆነ :
በጣም : ይዘገጓቱ ። ክሙሴ : ኪልፃ : ሞነግገሬ : ሞስማያም
ኑ : ያሰው ፣ ኣነ ይ : ሆነ : ኣይስጡ ። ኣርሱ : የሚነገር ፣
ፅ ኣውነት : ኣላግኻሁያመ : ሰው : ፃፉ ፣ ለማየግባት ፣ ቢቀር ፣
ሌላ : ንበልሃት : የለውም ፣ ይጠጓቀቱ ።
ኣጣዚ ኣብሔር ፣ ኣርስያጓ ፣ ና : ግዛትያጓ ፣ ይጠበቀልኻ ና ፣
በሂሳና : ያግናኜጓ ።
በሱሪክ ፣ክሞይ : በሞህሳነ ፣ በ፱ቀጓ ፣ ሞኻፈ ።

Alfred Ilg

Kephnstrasse 13
Zurich (Suisse)

087. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Giyorgis
Zurich 11 December 1891



088. Alfred Ilg to Maššaššā Warqē
Zurich 10 March 1892

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[illegible]

089. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
... 14 March "1892"

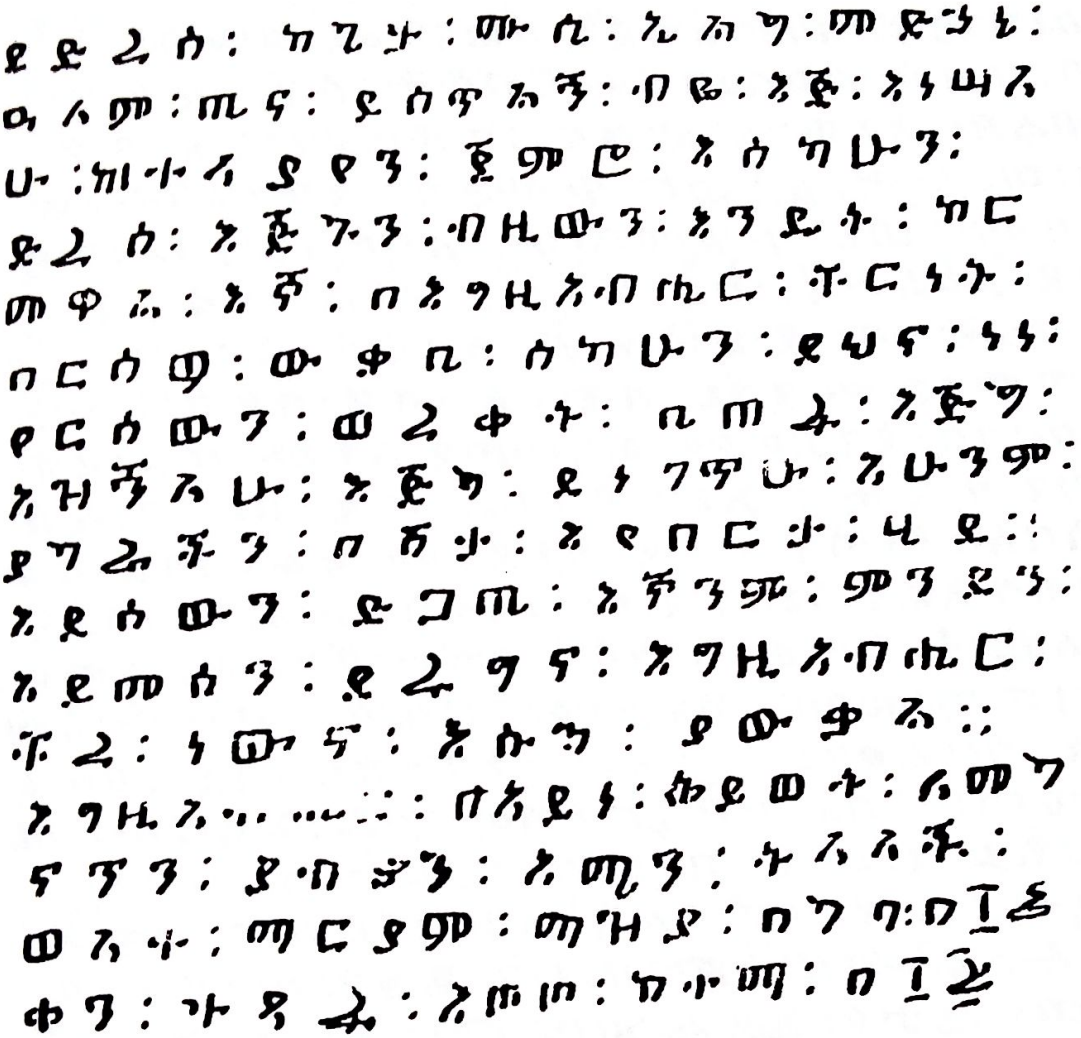
[illegible]

090. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 12 April "1892"

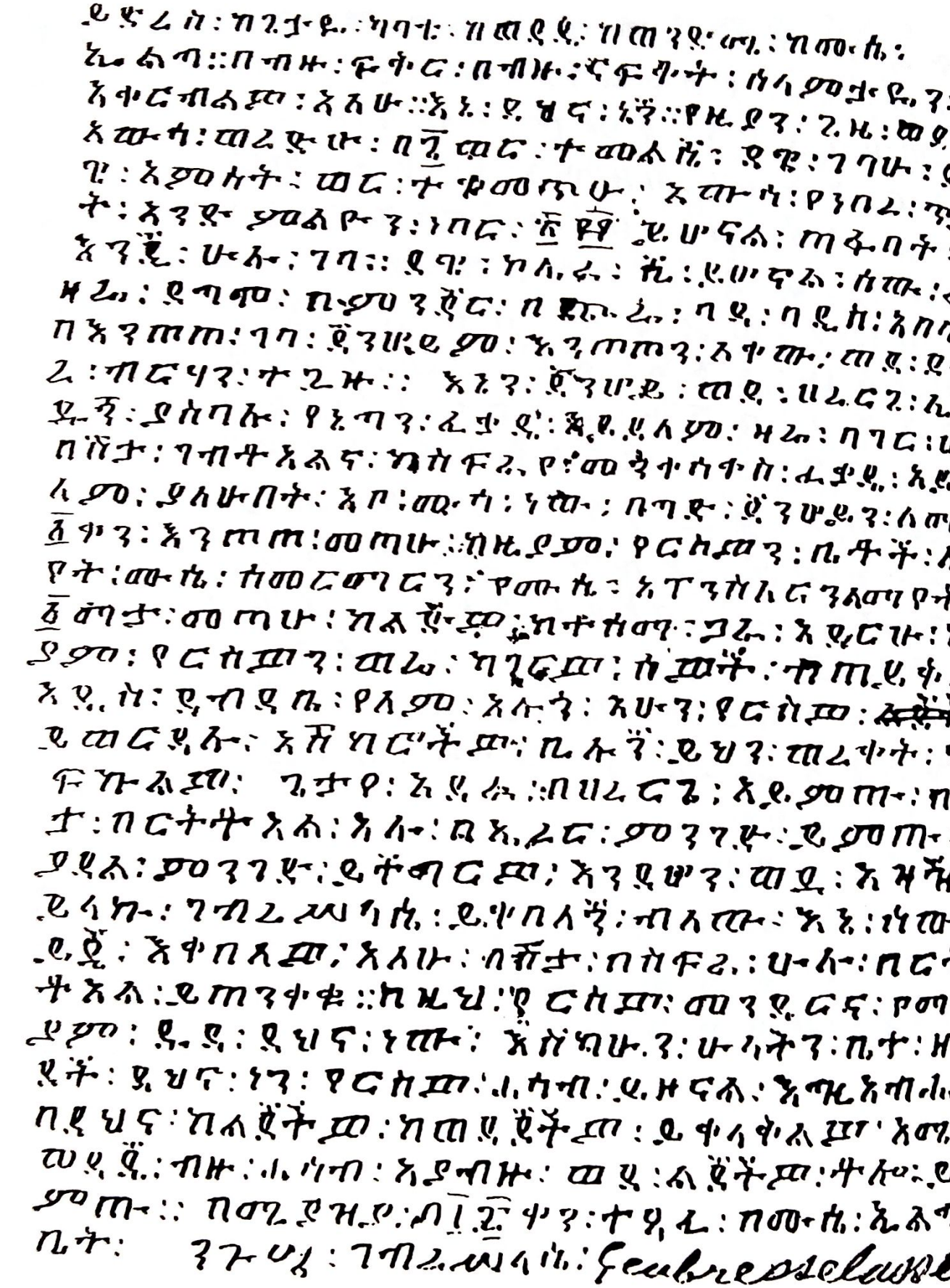
ይድረስ፡ከ፲ቃዮ፡ከመ·ሲ ኡ·ል·ግ፡መድኃኔ
ዓለም·ጤና፡ይስጥ·ል·ኝ፡ብዙ፡እይ፡እነሣለሁ ::
እጂዱ·ክረመዋ·ል፡፡እኛ፡እግዚ·አብሔር፡ይመ
ስገኝ፡ደሓና፡ነን ::: እስዋን፡ብቻ፡ና ፍቀ·ና·ል
:: ባገሩ፡በሽታ፡ገዝቶ·አል፡ደሩ·ግን፡እጅ·ግም·
አያሠፈራ ፡፡በየካቲት፡የጣ·ል·ኝ፡ደብደቢ፡ደ
ርሶኛ·ል፡፡ ቶሎ·ቢመጡ·ል·ኝ፡እጅ·ግ፡ደስ፡ይለኛ
·ል፡የቤቱ፡ጣጣ፡ሲገለኝ፡ነው :: ::አቡ·ያሠፋ
መጡት፡ምስለኔ ፡ሣያርስም፣ሣያሳርስም!የዘ
ር፡የሠጡትን፡ገንዘብ፡በል·ቶ፡ብይዘው፡ሎሊሽም፡
ለይደለሁ፡ብሎ፡ከሠሠኝ ::: ደግሞ፡የቃጅማ፡ምስ
ሌኒአችን፡በረአችን፣የእርሻ፡እየሸጠ፡እህላችን፣ለለመ
ን፡እደረገ፡ጠላት፡ከሦት፡ተረታ ::ሁለቱንም፡ለሠመ
ጥቹ፡ሰደድኁቹው !!:: የከንት፡ሰለም፣ፕሪን፡ዕቃ፡ሰሐ
ኪም፡ሁሰባርሂ፡አስረከብሁ :: ሙሲ፡አም፣በሰለል፡ሠሚ
ለሉኝ ፡ላመችንም፣ሁሉን፡ሰጠሁ :: አዲ ስ፡አበባ፡የኛን
ሆይ፡ከተማ፡ተቃጠለ ::የበሽታዉንም፡ነገር፡አይርሱን
:: ራህመቶንም፡የሰል፡በሽታ፡ገደለው፡፡ የአይነም
ን፡ነባር ችም፡ንሚሱም፡ተሠደዱ ::ንሚሠሙም፡ችጋ
ር፡ፈጀቸው ፣ጥቂትም፡ዚኖሩ፡ሠራ፡የማይሠሩ፣ናች
ው ::በበረሃቻችንም፡የታረሰ፡አልባረክ፡አለ፡አንዘጣ
፡ረ·ንጣ፡በላው ::እስታሁ·ን፡ግን፡አልራበነም ፡ሁሉም
ለይቹ·ላር፡እርስዎን፡ደሓና፡ያምጣልን፡እያልን፡አንለም
ናለን :::እግዚአብሔር·በሕይወት፡ያገናኘን፡፡
በማዝያ፡በፎቱን፡ተጣፈ፡በእንጠጠ፡ከተማ ፡፡
ተለለች፡ወይዘሮ፣ወለተ፡ማርያም ::

091. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ṣarṣar 16 April 1892

092. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 22 April "1892"



093. Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 25 April "1892"



094. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 8 May "1892"

ደ ድ ረ ሰ ፡ ከ ር ታ ፡ ሙ ሉ ፡ ኢ ሉ ን ፡ መ ድ ን ኑ
ዉ ሉ ም ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ደ ሰ ኖ ሉ ኝ ፡ ብ ፪ ፡ ኦ ድ ።።
እ ነ ሣ ሉ ሁ ፡ ኦ ድ ጉ ን ፡ ኦ ድ ጉ ን ፡ ኦ ን ደ ኑ ፡
ሰ ን ብ ሁ ዋ ሉ ፡ ኦ ን ደ ኑ ።። ከ ር መ ዋ ሉ ።። ኦ
ሮ ን ፡ በ ኦ ን ዚ ሉ ብ ዘ ር ፡ ኑ ር ነ ኑ ።። በ ር ፡
ሰ ዋ ን ፡ ዋ ቃ ቢ ፡ ደ ኳ ና ፡ ነ ነ ፡ በ ሽ ታ
ው ም ፡ በ ር ደ ዋ ሉ ፡ ጀ ን ሆ ይ ም ፡ ኦ ኳ ፡
በ ር ።። ሽ ሹ ፡ በ ሽ ሽ ፡ ኦ ን ጦ ሠ ፡ ደ ኳ ና ፡
ሩ ነ ።። በ ሽ ታ ው ም ፡ ኦ ዱ ጋ ፡ ሽ ሽ ።።
የ ዛ ደ በ ኑ ።። ን ን ፡ ደ ፈ ድ ዋ ሉ ።። ኦ ረ ን
ኢ ር ሰ ዋ ን ፡ ብ ኃ ፡ ኤ ደ ፡ ሰ ማ ይ ፡ ኦ ሬ ሙ
ቁ ን ።። ኦ ደ ፡ ሠ ኃ ።። ጠ ጠ ፡ ነ ።። ና ፪ ቁ
ኑ ።። ኦ ሁ ን ም ፡ ኦ ን ዚ ሉ ብ ዘ ር ፡ በ ኦ
ደ ነ ፡ ሰ ጋ ፡ ሉ መ ግ ና ኝ ኑ ፡ ደ ብ ዘ ን ፡ ብ ፪ ፡
ኢ ም ሉ ክ ን ።። ኦ ሽ ም ን ፡ ኦ ሉ ሁ ።።

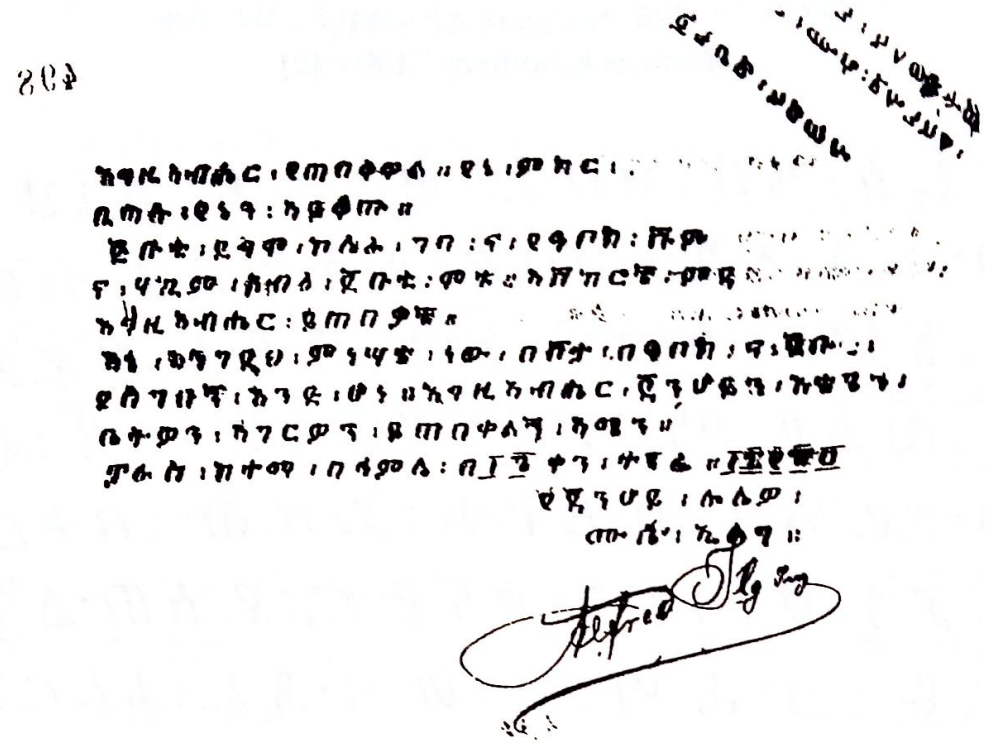
ጠ ማ ን ጦ ኑ ፡ ፩ ቁ ን ፡ ሁ ደ ፈ ፡ ኦ ን ጠ ጠ ።።
ነ ፡ ሁ ማ ፡ ኑ ሉ ሉ ኝ ፡ ሠ ሉ ሁ ፡ ማ ር ደ ም ።።

095. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Ankobar 1 June 1892

የሐዲሥ ዘለቀ፡ ፃሕፌ፡ መጽሐፍ ቅዱስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሊቃውንት፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ
ዳንኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ኤርምያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ሕዝቅኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ሰዓሊ ኢሳይያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ዘካርያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ሚልክያስ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ሆሴዕ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ኢዮኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ አሞጽ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ አብድዩ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ዮናስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ሚክያስ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ናሆም፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ አምባቆም፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ
ሶፎንያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ አጌዎስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ዘካርያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ሰዓሊ ሚልክያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ኢያሱ፡ ወመጽሐፈ መሳፍንት፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ሩት፡ ወመጽሐፈ ነገሥት ፩ኛ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ነገሥት ፪ኛ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ነገሥት ፫ኛ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ነገሥት ፬ኛ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዜና መዋዕል ፩ኛ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዜና መዋዕል
፪ኛ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዕዝራ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ነህምያ፡ ወመጽሐፈ አስቴር፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ኢዮብ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰዓሊ ዳዊት ፻፶ ወ፭፡ ወመጽሐፈ ምሳሌ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
መክብብ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሰሎሞን ዘይሰመይ መኃልየ መኃልይ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ጥበበ
ሰሎሞን፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሲራክ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ኢሳይያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ኤርምያስ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ሕዝቅኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዳንኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሆሴዕ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ኢዮኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ አሞጽ፡ ወመጽሐፈ አብድዩ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዮናስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ሚክያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ናሆም፡ ወመጽሐፈ አምባቆም፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሶፎንያስ፡
ወመጽሐፈ አጌዎስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዘካርያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሚልክያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ጦቢት፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዮዲት፡ ወመጽሐፈ ተአምረ ማርያም፡ ወመጽሐፈ ኩፋሌ፡
ወመጽሐፈ ሄኖክ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሶፎንያስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ኢያሱ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዕዝራ
ሱቱኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዕዝራ ዘራብእ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዕዝራ ሰላቲኤል፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ምክሲማሮስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ዲዮስቆሮስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ አርጌንስዮስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ
ሐዋርያት፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት ዘክሌምንጦስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት
ዘአቡሊዲስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት ዘሰለስቴዎስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት
ዘአብድዩስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት ዘአናቅላውዲዎስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት
ዘአግሪጳ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት ዘአርስጣሮስ፡ ወመጽሐፈ ሐዋርያት
ዘአርስጣሮስ

096. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Paris 22 July 1892

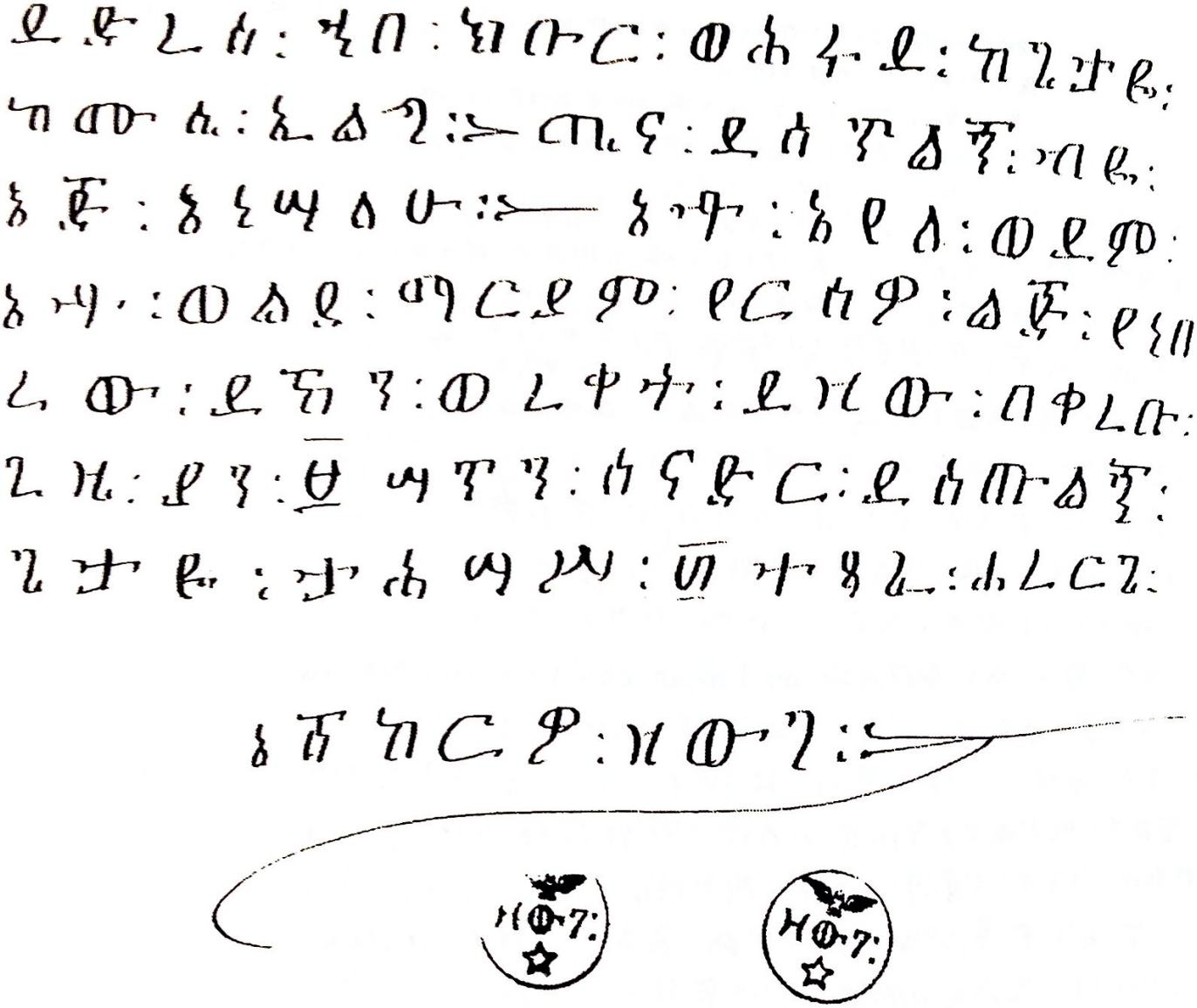
ይድረስ ፡ ከክቡር ፡ ውለውል ፡
ጻግጣዊ ፡ ምኒሊክ ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ፡
መድኃኔ ፡ ቀለም ፡ ጠፍ ፡ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡ እጅ ፡ እነሣለሁ ፡ እጅጉን ፡
ከንጹት ፡ ሰነ ፡ ብጥ ፡ እኔ ፡ በእግዚአብሔር ፡ ቸረነት ፡ በጂንሆይ ፡ ውታቤ ፡
ይሳና ፡ ነኝ ። የደመሠሐች ፡ ጂንሆይ ፡ የፍሐንሳዊ ፡ ጥረሲይንት ፡
ጅንሀይ ፡ ባቲሳክ ፡ ቀበሮ ፡ ኒሻን ፡ ሌታሳክ ፡ ነጉሥ ፡ ቢቻ ፡
ደሚገባ ፡ ፈሽጣ ፡ ሸለምወል፡ ዋሉን ፡ ኮርያን ፡ ቢሳ ፡ ልኳዩን ፡
ይነና ፡ ፈሚባል ፡ ይሄው ፡ ሌሉስ ፡ መክንን ፡ ሌታሳክ ፡ መይዘር ፡
የመጽንዓሥት ፡ ልጅ ፡ ደሚገባ ፡ ሁለተኛ ፡ ኒሻን ፡ ሃሉንይ ፡ ዓፈሬ ፡
ይሳ ፡ ሌኳዩን ፡ ይነር ፡ የሚባል ፡ ኒሻን ፡ ሸለምወል ። ጅህንን ፡
ኒሻን ፡ ሌጂንሆይ ፡ ከነ ፡ ሰላፍያ ፡ መጣያ ፡ ጋራ ፡ አሁን ፡ ሲለኩ ፡
ናቹ ፡ ደስ ፡ ይበሉ ፡ ና ፡ አጅፃ ፡ ለጂንሆይ ፡ የለፋ ፡ ሉሌይ ፡ አይ
ራስ ። ጂንሆይ ፡ ፩ ደብዳቤ ፡ አንኳን ፡ ሰይልኩ ፡ ቢቀሩ ፡ ጂንሆይ ፡
ጣልቃኖል ፡ ይመስለኛል ። አሉ ፡ ከለቆቴ ፡ ቢቀር ፡ ሌላ ፡ ክፉ ፡ ነገር ፡
ሰፊቹ ፡ አሰወድትም ። ይህው ፡ መያመጣቱ ፡ ነው ፡ ና ፡ ዋይንም ፡ አይቹ ፡
ጂንሆይ ፡ ጠሉኝ ፡ እንድ ፡ ሆነ ፡ ባይሆን ፡ ደጣፉሁትን ፡ ነገር ፡ አሰማ
ለሁ ። ቢ አጣፉ ፡ አንኳኝ ፡ በክፉ ፡ ልቤ ፡ አይዲሰም ፡ ጂንሆይ ፡ ዓ ፡
አገርዎ ፡ ወየ ጂ ፡ ነው ፡ የለፉሁት ። እግዚ አብሔር ፡ ቢቻ ፡ በይሳና ፡
ከጂንሆይ ፡ ደገኛኝ ። አሁንም ፡ ዲያም ፡ ፩ ነገር ፡ ከልቤ ፡ አለኝ ።
ጂንሆይ ፡ ከኢጣልደ ፡ መንግሥት ፡ በይሳና ፡ ሥልጣን ፡ ይመጥዋል ፡ ይባላል ።
ሙሴ ፡ ትሑዋርሲ ፡ እጅግ ፡ መልካም ፡ የጂንሆይ ፡ ደብዳቤ ፡ ይዞ ፡
ይመጥቀዋል ፡ ይላሉ ፡ ና ፡ ሥሉ ፡ የኢጣልደ ፡ መላኻ ፡ ይዞ ፡ ሲወጡ ፡ ናቹ ።
ጂንሆይ ፡ ከኢጣልደ ፡ ረስጣየው ፡ መልካም ፡ ነው ፡ ነገር ፡ ግን ፡ የ፲፮
ቱን ፡ ክፈል ፡ ይሁን ፡ ወይ ፡ ስም ፡ አንበል ፡ ካሉ ፡ መልካም ፡
አይደለም ፡ ይመስለኛል ። እኔ ፡ አስከ ፡ ዛሬ ፡ ይረስ ፡ ጂንሆይ ፡
አንድ ፡ አሉኝ ፡ መቅም ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነግሥት ፡ ሌሌላ ፡
መንግሥት ፡ ማነስ ፡ ቢሆን ፡ ካይግዛም ፡ ቢይለው ። እግዚአብሔ
ሂኢትዮጵያን ፡ አስከ ፡ ዛሬ ፡ ይረስ ፡ መበቀ ፡ ከዛሬ ፡ ወድያ ፡



097. Léonce Lagarde to Tasammā Nādaw

Paris 14 August "1892"

098. Zawga to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 8 January "1893"[?]



099. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 7 August 1893

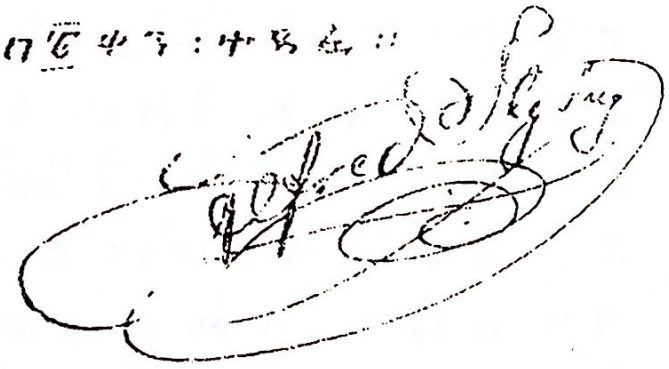
የቀደም ፡ ኅለት ፡ ኣዚህ ፡ ኣደለ ፡ ጋዞታ ፡ መጠ ፡ ነበር ፡ ራስ ፡ መኩንን ፡
ዘሙዴ ፡ ኣባገረባቹ ፡ ይባቤል ። ይህን ፡ ሁለ ፡ ኤንዲህ ፡ የሚኣወሩ ፡
ኣርበኛውን ፡ ከሷን ሆይ ፡ ለባዕ ስጠላት ፡ የባቢሏለች ፡ ናቹ ። ያህን ፡
ወረ ፡ ቄጠኛ ፡ የኣንቶኔሊ ፡ ጋዞታ ፡ ሪፎርማ ፡ የሚባል ፡ ነው ።
መጣስ ፡ ቢኣወሩት ፡ ሷን ሆይ ፡ ኤንዲህ ፡ ያለ ፡ ነግር ፡ ኣይሰሙም ፡
ኣርበኛው ፡ ደቁጣ ፡ በዚህ ፡ ሰፍረን ፡ ኞች ፡ ላይከፈ ፡ ኣርበኛውን ፡
ስንም ፡ ደግሞ ፡ የሚጠበት ፡ ጦሐፍ ፡ ኣለ ።
ወሌ ፣ ሸፍኔ ፣ ኣግራቹ ፡ በደሳና ፣ ግቡና ፡ ለኢትዮጵያ ፡ ኑሯ ፡ ይለፈሉ ።
ኣርበኑ ፡ የሚጠረጠር ፡ ሰው ፡ ኣይደለም ፡ ና ፣ ልር ሱ ፡ ኣርበኛው ፡
ቢረዱት ፡ ለሷን ሆይ ፡ ወረዱት ፡ ነው ።
የዛለ ላራፍ ፡ ሰላለት ፡ የስልክ ፡ ወረ ፡ ኣግኛለሁ ፡ ዛሬ ፣ ሁስቴ ፡
ኣዲረግ ፣ ነበር ። ኣስክ ፡ ዘረ ፣ ዲረስ ፣ ቢቁር ፡ ኣሯ ፡ ኣዘኛለሁ ።
መነው ፡ ቢናንተ ፡ ጉልበት ፣ የሚሆኝ ፡ ነግር ፡ ኣንዲህ ፣ ይቁር ።
ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ኣንዲ ፡ ጥንት ፡ ኣንናራለኝ ፣ ቢለ ፡ ይሆናል ።
ኣኛ ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ነው ፡ መልክ ያመ ፡ ነው ፡ ሥራለህ ፡
ኣግር ፡ ስንነግር ፡ ለናንተ ፡ ስንለፍ ፡ ኣባንተ ፡ በመኔ ፡ ነግር ፡
ወደ ፡ ሩሲ ፡ ዛ ጉሥታለቹ ። የቀረውን ፡ ነው ፣ ብንደውቅ ፡ ኣርበኛው ፡
ሁሉ ፣ ሲኣወቁ ፡ ለመን ፡ ስያመ ፡ ይላሉ ። ምበር ታች ፣ ለርስው ፡
የባቢግበ ፣ ነበር ። ይህን ፡ ሁለ ፡ ያመጨ ፡ ኣርበኛውን ፣ ና ፡ ሷን ሆይ ፡
ቢወዱ ፡ ነው ። ኣሁንም ፡ ኣግዚኣብሔር ፡ ኣድማና ፡ በኔና ፡ ይስጥህ ።
ኣደስ ፡ ኣበባ ፡ በነሃሴ ፡ በ፲ቱን ፡ ጽፊ ።
ኣገክው ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ ኣሽከሮቹ ፡ ከቦህር ፡ የመጡ ፡
"ኣንድ ፡ ሆነ ፡ በደሳና ፡ ወደህ ፡ ሽኙለኝ ።

100. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 7 September 1893

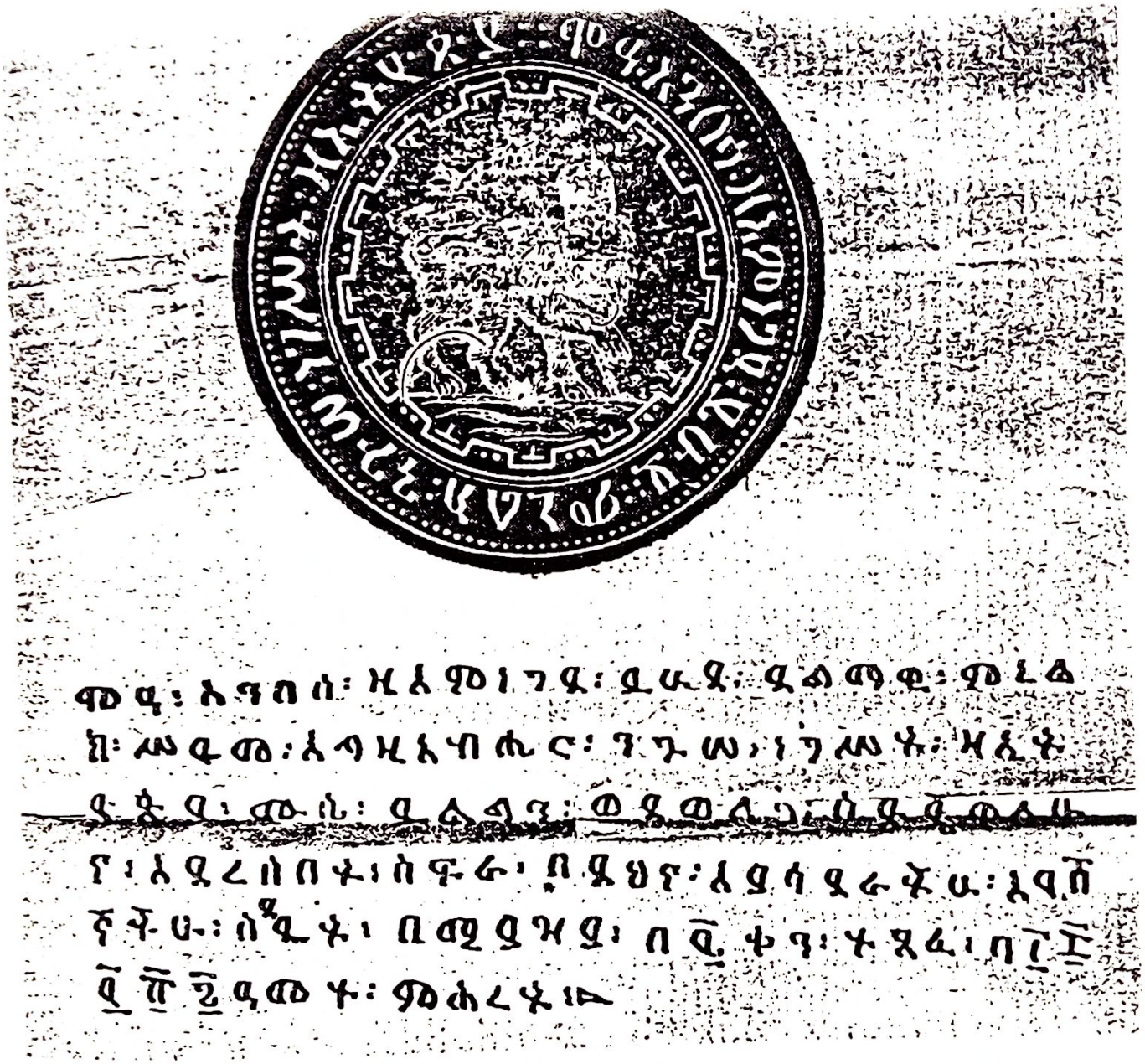
ደ ቁ ረ ስ ፣ ለ ክ ቡ ር ፡ አ ራ ስ ፡ መ ኮ ንጣ ።
መ ድ ኃ ኒ ፡ ፃ ለ ሞ ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ይ ለ ጥ ልኝ ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ እ ጅ ፡
እ ና ፣ ለ ዉ ፡ ብ ዙ ው ን ፡ ለ ን ይ ት ፡ ለ ን ፡ ፋ ቱ ዋ ሪ ፡ እ ሬ ፡
እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ይ መ ስ ግ ን ፡ ዴ ሃ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ። ሪ ና ሐ ሲ ፡
ለ ፲ ፬ ቀ ን ፡ የ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ቀ ፡ ደ ረ ሰ ኝ ፡ ይ ሄ ን ን ት ቃ ን ፡
ብ ለ ማ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ደ ስ ፡ ብ ሉ ኛ ል ።
መ ዝ መ ት ቀ ን ሞ ፡ ሰ ሞ ቹ ፡ ደ ስ ፡ ብ ሎ ለ ት ቀ ል ፡ ቢ ሉ ኝ ፡
እ ጅ ግ ፡ ደ ስ ፡ ብ ሉ ኛ ል ። ገ ን ዘ ቡ ን ፡ ተ ለ ና ድ ቅ ለ ህ ፡
ለ ን ዳ ሞ ን ፡ ከ ዚ ያ ው ፡ ለ ጉ ዴ ይ ፡ የ ሚ ገ ባ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ብ ሰ ው
ኛ ል ። ለ ሁ ን ም ፡ ከ ዚ ህ ፡ ለ መ ሰ ጠ ው ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ሰ ከ ሌ ፡
ለ ጥ ፡ ብ ለ ው ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ይ ለ ኩ ብ ኝ ና ፡ ለ ን ዳ ለ ረ ስ ብ ፡
ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ ለ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ደ ለ ጥ ልኝ ።
ኦ ሌ ሞ ፡ ደ ግ ሞ ፡ ለ ን ዳ ኑ ሚ ፡ ለ ን ለ ግ ላ ለ ሁ ።
የ ይ ና ፡ ሽ ማ ፡ ታ ቹ ን ፡ ለ ር ስ ዋ ፡ ዘ ን ድ ፡ ይ መ ጠ ና ፡
ያ ቄ ሱ ል ፡ ብ ዬ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ለ ሁ ሣ ሚ ን ፡ ከ መ ሉ ፡ ሰ ዋ ረ ፡ ።
ለ ቃ ፡ ን ራ ፡ ለ ሌ ረ ር ፡ መ ጠ ። ለ ሁ ን ም ፡ ከ ዚ ሁ ፡ ሹ ፊ ቃ ፡
ደ ፊ ል ጉ ፡ ለ ን ዳ ሠ ነ ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ይ ለ ሪ ኩ ብ ኝ ና ፡
ገ ን ዘ ቡ ን ፡ ለ ም ለ ጠ ው ፡ ለ ጡ ፡ ጅ ና ሙ ን ም ፡
ለ ን ድ ለ ኛ ። ደ ግ ሞ ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ለ ቅ ል ነ ፡ ብ ኝ ፡ ቀ ረ ህ ።
ቢ ሉ ኝ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ገ ረ መ ኝ ። ይ ኒ ዚ ፡ ለ ኪ ሌ ሞ ፡
ነ በ ር ፡ ባ ደ ዴ ር ሉ ፡ ይ ሠ ና ል ።
ለ ሁ ን ም ፡ ለ ም ለ ክ ፡ በ ደ ሃ ና ፡
ደ ግ ና ፕ ፡ ለ ሚ ን ።
ለ ዲ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ተ ጸ ጉ ፡ ለ ይ ቀ ን ፡ ተ ጫ ራ ። ፲፰፻፺፫ ፭ ።

Alfred Ilg

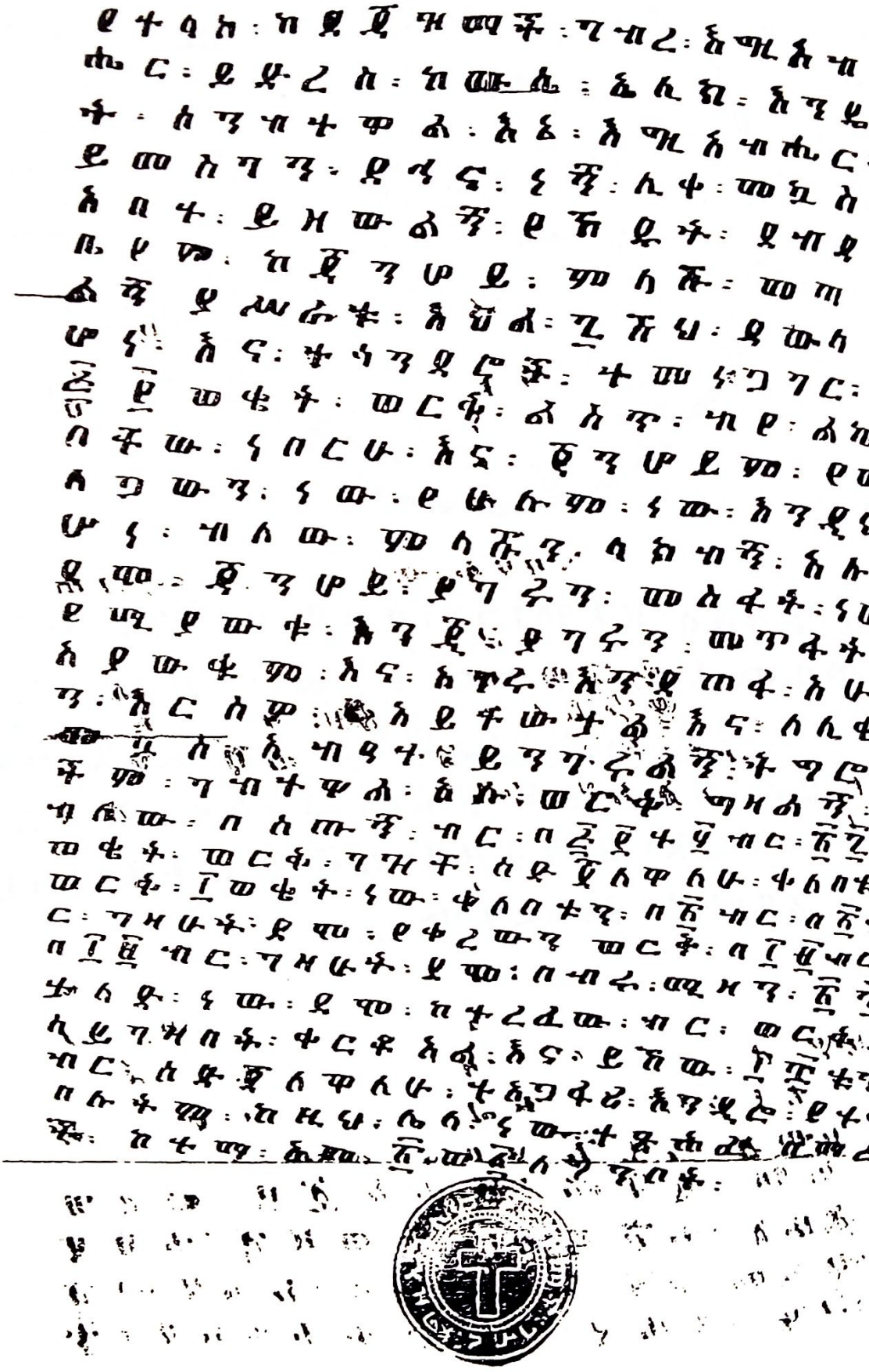
101. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 28 March "1894"



102. Menilek's Travel Permit for Alfred Ilg
"Addis Ababā" 9 April 1894



103. Gabra Egziʿabḥēr Moradā to Alfred Ilg
Amārač 28 May 1894



104. Menilek II to Bibliothèque Nationale
Addis Ababā, 12 September 1894

ሞኅ፡አገበሳ፡ዘአምነገፈ፡ፈሁዳ፡ፈቅማዊ፡ምኔልክ፡ሠፍመ፡ቶን
ዘአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ። ፈድረስ፡አፓሪስ፡
አኅማ፡ፈለው፡ቢብለዎቲክ፡ናሲዮናል፡ለለቋ። በመፃፍሥ
ታችሁ፡ቢብለዎቲክ፡ውስጥ፡ፈገራችን፡መጻሕፍት፡ብዙ፡አ
ሉ፡ሲሉ፡ሰምቻለሁና፡ሙሴ፡ኤልቅ፡ወዲገረ፡የሚመለሰ፡ቢ
ሆን፡ለማስገልበጥም፡ቢሆን፡ለማየትም፡ቢሆን፡ክትፈ
ቅዱልኝ፡ዲስ፡ፈለኽል። የተመኘሁትን፡ነገር፡እንደሆ
ንልኝ፡ተስፋ፡እለኝ። በመስከረም፡በ፫ቱ፡ባዲስ፡አበባ፡ከ
ተማ፡ተጻፈ። በ፲፰፻፹፮ ፭ዓመተ፡ምሕረት።

105. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Djibouti 28 September "1894"

39

Dschibouti le 28 oct 1894.

106. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to César Tian
Ḥarar 6 October 1894

የጥላክ፡ ከ ራሲ፡ ወከሥገነ የሐረር፡ ገሽ፡ ይድረሲ፡
ከ ወ ኪ ሲ፡ ከ ሙ ሲ፡ ቲ ያ ን፡፡
ሰላም፡ ላንተ፡ ይሁን፡፡
ከዚህ፡ ቀደም፡ ሙሲ፡ ደ ልክ፡ ሲመጣ፡ የ ምትገዛውን፡
የ መ ጠ ን ጂ፡ ዓ ይ ነ ት፡ ያ መ ለ ክ ትኻ ል፡ ብ የ፡ ጅ ፊ ሌ ል ህ፡ ነ ብ ር፡
እ ነ ሆ፡ ሙ ሲ፡ ይ ክ፡ መ ጣ ል ህ፡፡ እ ኔ፡ የ ም ሬ ል ገ ው ን ፡ ጠ
ው ን ጂ፡ እ ር ሱ፡ ያ ስ ታ ው ቅ ኻ ል፡፡ ዲ ላ ሚ ኖ ም፡ ስ ሠ ራ፡ የ
የ ሚ ሆ ን፡ መ ል ሳ ላ ክ ህ፡ ዓ ይ ነ ት፡ ብ ረ ቱ፡ እ ር ሱ፡ የ ሚ ያ
ሳ ይ ህ ን፡ ያ ህ ል፡ በ ጭ ሙ፡ ገ ዝ ተ ህ፡ ብ ቱ ል ክ ል ኝ፡ እ ወ ዲ ለ ሁ፡
ለ ረ ቱ፡ ከ ዲ ን፡ የ ሚ ሆ ነ ው ን ሃ ህ፡ ዚ ን ን፡ የ ሚ ላ ታ ን ን፡ እ ር ሱ፡
ያ ው ቀ ዋ ል ና፡ የ ሚ ነ ግ ር ህ ን፡ እ ኔ ጁ ቱ ል ክ ል ኝ፡ ይ ሁ ን ፡፡
ጤ ና፡ ይ ሥ ጥ ህ፡፡ ተ ጻ ፈ፡ ሐ ረ ር፡ ፲፰ ዘመ ሰ ክ ረ ም፡
፲፰፻፺፫ ኛ፡፡

107. Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē to Heinrich Appenzeller
Addis Ababā 19 February "1895"

ዋጉላስ፡ስራሰ፡ዲርጊ፡ደጁረሰ፡ስሙሲ፡ኤጭገሰላር፡እገዲ
ች፡ሰገሻጉሃል፡እኔ፡እላዚአብሔር፡ደመሰገገ፡ደህና፡ትዜ—
ጢ ናህገሰ፡ዲህና፡ኑዛገ። እኔም፡በእላዚአብሔር፡ቸርነት፡ባገ
ች፡ውቃቢ፡ደህና፡ኑኝ። ደሓ ዲቢህም፡ደረሰልኝ። ለልጅ፡ጓላ
ሣ ሚሰ፡እገጉ፡እያለህ፡እኔ፡ምገ፡ዋምሰጋው፡ትገር፡አለ፡እ
ኔ፡ባልሮር፡እገጉሰ፡ዋኔገ። ያህል፡ደጀዲለህ ም። እላዚአብ
ሔር፡በረቂቁ፡ጊዜ፡በሐዲፀጉ፡ሠጋ፡ለመገናኘት፡ደሓቃ
ገሥ ለዋካቺ ት፡በ፲፮ጉገ፡ጉ ጻረ። ባዲሳጠባ፡ክጉ ሰግ—

108. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 25 February 1895

የሑላክ፡ከአቲጊ፡ጣ ፯ ሱ፡ዛ ር ሃ ግ፡ዘ ኤ ሱ ዮ ያ።
ይ ድ ረ ስ፡ከ መ ሴ፡ኤ ሐ ላ ፡እ ግ ፯ ሱ፡ሰ ግ ዛ ሣ ሃ ል፡እ ኔ፡እ ላ
ዜ አ ዛ ሐ ር፡ ፯ መ ሥ ገ ግ፡ የ ዓ ና ፡ነ ኛ ።በ ጥ ር፡በ ፲ ሱ ግ፡ጣ ፲
፲ ፱ ፯ ፳ በ ዙ ረ ክ፡ከ ሑ ጣ ፡የ ሱ ኣ ረ ፡ ፯ ዛ ፱ ፯ ቢ ህ፡ ፯ ረ ሰ ሐ
ኛ ።መ ሴ፡ሽ ፍ ኔ፡በ ዚ ህ፡ሰ ሞ ግ፡ ፯ ገ ግ ሐ፡ ፯ ዓ ና ፡አ ድ ር ገ ው፡
እ ግ ፯ ቀ በ ሉ ሱ፡ ሳ ሰ ፉ፡አ ለ ኛ፡ዛ ለ ህ፡ላ ክ ህ ዛ ኛ ።እ ሱ፡እ
ጓ ቓ ፯፡ሰ ው፡እ ፱ ለ፡እ ኔ ግ ስ፡ጠ ረ ጠ ር ኸ ኛ ።ዘ ረ ፡የ ሱ ገ ና ኖ
ችሁ፡የ ው ነ ሱ፡ግ ለ ቱ ር ፕ፡ወ ዳ ፰ ቻ ቹ ግ፡አ ግ ሳ ና ፡መ ሴ ፡ሽ
ፍ ኔ ፡ና ችሁ፡በ ዚ ህ ፡ል ዛ ህ ፡አ ፯ ጠ ረ ጠ ር ።ኤ ሱ ዮ ያ ፡የ
ቓ ሞ፡ከ ፈ ሳ ኖ ቹ ፡ ፯ ል ቅ ፡ዘ ረ ፡አ ዲ ስ ፡አ ዲ ሰ ፡ወ ዳ ኛ ፡ ፯ ወ
ጣ ለ ሱ ፡ጋ ር መ ር፡ዛ ለ ህ፡ዛ ቱ ል ክ ዛ ኛ ፡አ ጅ ጓ ፡የ ስ ፡አ ለ ኛ ።
አ ግ ሳ ና ፡መ ሴ ፡ሽ ፍ ኔ ፡ሰ ላ ች ሁ ፡እ ግ ቓ ፯ ህ፡መ ቹ ፡ወ ዳ ኛ ፡
እ ና ጣ ለ ግ ።ከ መ ሰ ካ ዛ ፡መ ግ ቓ ሥ ሱ ፡የ መ ጡ ፡ሰ ዎ ች ፡ሰ
ጣ ቸ ው ግ ም ፡በ ጋ ዚ ጣ ፡አ ገ ኙ ሁ ሱ ።። የ ቢ ክ ሓ ር ያ ፡ኒ ያ ግ ዘ
ግ ፡ባ ሕ ር ፡ለ ጣ የ ሱ ፡መ ጡ ፡ ፯ ባ ላ ል ፡ዛ ለ ህ ፡የ ላ ክ ህ ዛ ኛ
ግ ፡ሰ ጣ ሁ ።ነ ገ ር ፡ቓ ፯ ፡እ ነ ዚ ያ ፡እ ስ ካ ሁ ግ ፡ድ ረ ስ ፡ከ ኖ ፡ዘ
ጓ ድ ፡እ ል ፯ ረ ሱ ም ።በ መ ጡ ፡ጊ ዚ ፡ሁ ሉ ግ ም ፡እ ና ው ቀ ዋ ል
ግ ።ሲ መ ጡ ም ፡የ ዓ ና ፡አ ድ ር ገ ፯ ፡እ ግ ቱ በ ላ ቸ ዋ ለ ግ ።የ ም
ጓ ስ ቲ ር ፡ቓ ር ስ ቲ ግ ጣ ፡ነ ገ ር ፡እ ግ ኳ ግ ፡ዮ ር ፓ ፡የ ኤ ሱ ዮ
ያ ፡ሰ ው ፡ሁ ሉ ፡አ ው ቆ ታ ል ።እ ግ ቓ ፯ ህ ፡ከ ቓ ር ስ ቺ ፡የ ም
ፕ ረ ል ግ ው፡ነ ገ ር ፡የ ለ ም ።እ ነ ዚ ያ ፡ጠ ር ነ ሱ ፡ረ ል ኗ ቸ ው፡ካ

ልመ ጣ፡ በ ቀ ር፡ እ ኛ ፡ ዛ ረ ፡ ለ ጥ ል ፡ አ ገ ሯ ከ፡ ል ም ። ። እ ኛ ም ፡ አ
ገ ተ ም ፡ ባ ሉ ልክ ሀ ገ ፡ ወ ሂ ፡ ቦ ራ ፡ ማ. ሂ ፡ ለ መ ው ጣ ት ፡ አ ስ
በ ና ል ፡ ከ ዚ ያ ው ፡ ሁ ኖ ፡ ነ ገ ራ ፡ ሁ ለ፡ ፡ ለ ማ ሂ መ ጥ ፡ ይ ሻ ላ ል ፡
ሃ ለ ን ፡ ነ ው። ። ያ ሀ በ ይ ር ሀ-ማ ገ ን ፡ አ ገ ር ፡ ሐ ሀ ታ ወ ው ፡ አ ገ ር ፡
እ ሱ ፡ ነ ው፡ ና ፡ ሻ፡ ላ ፡ አ ይ በ ሉ ፡ ሂ ኗ ች ፡ ሁ ሰ ለ ማ ገ ና ፡ ፈ ታ ው
ፈ.ረ ፡ ት ክ ሊ ን ፡ ል ከ ው ፡ ፡ አ ገ ሩ ን ፡ ያ ሲ ዞ ት ፡ ያ ል ከ ኝ ን ም ፡
ደ ለ ፡ ም ከ ር ህ ፡ እ ጓ ዚ አ ሀ ሐ ር ፡ ያ መ ሠ ጓ ን ህ ። ። ይ ኸ ን
ኀ ለ ጣ ፡ አ ገ ር ፡ ካ ሰ ሰ ድ ን ፡ ም ን ፡ መ ዘ ላ ሠ ት ፡ አ ለ ን ፡ ፡ —
ኢ ጣ ሊ ያ ኖ ች ስ ፡ ከ ሰ ላ ን ፡ መ ያ ዘ ቹ ው ፡ ማ ኸ ላ ፡ ፍ ለ
ን ፡ መ ስ ለ ሃ ል ን ። ። በ ዚ ያ ፡ ዘ ረ ወ ፡ ፡ የ ወ ር ቁ ን ፡ አ ገ ር ፡
ለ መ ያ ዝ ፡ አ ሂ ሂ ለ ም ን ። ። አ ን ዷ ዚ ህ ፡ አ ን ዲ ዚ ህ ፡ ያ ለ
ው ን ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ለ መ ላ ክ ፡ አ ት ቦ ግ ዘ ን ሀ ን ። ። የ ል ች ፡ ጉ ፃ ሣ
ዛ ና ፡ የ ት ጣ ው ን ፡ ሂ ዛ ዛ ነ ት ፡ እ ዛ ዲ ት ል ክ ዛ ች ፡ ይ ሁ ን ።
እ ጓ ዚ አ ነ ሀ ሐ ር ፡ በ ሕ ያ ወ ቱ ፡ ሠ ን ፡ ለ መ ሃ ና ኘ ት ፡ ያ ሀ በ
ቃ ን ። ። — በ የ ካ ቲ ት ፡ ባ ፲ ፱ ቀ ን ፡ ባ ሂ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ክ ተ ማ ፡ ዛ ጻ ፈ ፡
ባ ፲ ፹ ፱ ፸ ፯ ዓ መ ዛ ፡ ያ መ ሕ ረ ት ። ።

109. Zāmānuᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
... 25 February 1895

110. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 April 1895

ቁ ፫ ረ ከ፡ ጠ ሙ ሴ ፡ አ ካ ፪ ር ፡ ኢ ል ላ ፡ ፦

ዬ ታ ዩ ፡ መ ፫ ኄ ኔ ፡ ፋ ለ ፵ ፡ ሠ ና ፡ ይ ከ ፕ ል ኻ ፡ ብ ዩ ፡ ፲ ፲ ጊ ዜ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሣ ለ ሡ ፡ ይ ጠ ጷ ቤ ዎ ም ፡ ይ ረ ሰ ኻ ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ካ ፡ ዩ ጸ ኤ ኡ ካ ፡ ባ ዩ ሡ ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ ጠ መ ሉ ፡ ይ ኽ ለ ኻ ፡ ነ በ ር ። ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ካ ፡ በ ር ሰ ዎ ና ፡ በ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኽ ፫ ኔ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ሰ ር ፹ ፡ ለ ይ ኳ ሠ ጷ ፡ ሳ ላ ክ ሡ ም ። ። እ ው ነ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ሡ ሉ ፡ የ ሚ ለ ው ኳ ፡ የ ም ፫ ር ፡ ባ ሡ ር ፡ ወ ዬ በ ኽ ፡ ዩ ወ ጣ ፡ እ ኳ ፭ ሠ ነ ፡ ለ በ ኽ ፡ ፭ ላ ፡ እ ይ ፭ ለ ም ፡ ጣ ያ ለ ሡ ። ። ያ ው ም ፡ ው ሰ ፡ መ ዋ ዋ ለ ኞ ሡ ኳ ፡ ለ ሳ ሙ ቀ ፡ በ ሬ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ኀ ና ፡ ቀ ፫ ሞ ፡ ነ ው ። ። ከ ር ሰ ዎ ና ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኽ ፫ ኔ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ፭ ኳ ሠ ይ ፡ ው ሰ ፡ መ ፫ ረ ጋ ኞ ው ኳ ፡ ለ ሳ ው ቀ ፡ በ ሬ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ። ። ኂ ለ ፡ ላ ካ ፡ ከ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ው ሰ ፡ መ ፫ ረ ጋ ኞ ሡ ኳ ፡ ታ ው ቀ ሡ ፡ በ ኂ ለ ፡ እ ጅ ኳ ፡ ዬ ነ ገ ፕ ሡ ። ። ይ ው ም ፡ መ ና ባ ሬ ፡ ለ ው ፡ ሡ ሉ ፡ የ ሚ ለ ው ኳ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ለ ም ኞ ፡ ነ ው ። ። ዩ ኳ ቀ ም ፡ ማ ና ኞ ው ም ፡ ኡ ባ ኳ ይ ፡ የ ም ፫ ር ፡ ባ ሡ ር ፡ ሊ ለ ወ ጣ ፡ መ ለ ሉ ኞ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ እ ኳ ፹ ፡ የ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ መ ሠ ኡ ኳ ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ካ ነ ገ ሩ ነ ፡ ወ ዲ ለ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ይ ወ ቀ ሡ ፡ ፦

ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ካ ፡ በ ር ሰ ዎ ና ፡ በ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኽ ፫ ኔ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ለ ለ ጠ ቂ ፡ ለ ፹ ኳ ሠ ይ ፡ ሰ ኪ ፡ እ ኳ ፭ ሠ ነ ፡ ፋ ቀ ጣ ። ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ካ ፡ የ ሳ ከ በ ዎ ም ፡ ለ ው ፡ ጠ ሳ ቴ ፡ መ ሠ ሩ ፡ ይ ታ ወ ቀ ፡ ነ ው ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ም ፡ ይ ው ቃ ሉ ፡ ሳ ራ ጣ መ ች ፡ ይ ሴ ፫ ፡ ከ ኔ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ጠ ሳ ሉ ፡ እ ኳ ፭ ሠ ነ ፡ ፫ ጥ ረ ቱ ፡ ይ ሙ ቃ ለ ። ። ላ ካ ፡ እ ለ ች ው ፡ የ ፹ ኳ ሠ ይ ኳ ፡ ም ሰ ጢ ር ፡ ሳ ኤ ጣ ሊ አ ወ ች ፡ እ የ ሸ ሙ ፡ መ ጠ ሳ ታ ች ው ፡ አ ይ ታ ወ ቅ ም ። ። የ ኔ ፡ ይ ፭ ሀ ሙ ፡ ቢ ሠ ኳ ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ታ ወ ቀ ። ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ካ ፡ ቢ ሠ ኳ ለ ፡ ከ ሳ ፭ ረ ኳ ሡ ች ም ፡ እ ኳ ፹ ፡ ባ ፭ ር ላ ም ፡ ነ ው ር ፡ አ ይ ሠ ኳ ጠ ኽ ም ፡ ነ በ ር ። ። ለ ው ፡ ሳ ኳ ጉ ፡ ለ ወ ኳ ሡ ፡ መ ር ፭ ች ፡ በ ኔ ፡ አ ለ ች ፹ መ ረ ም ። ። አ ሡ ኳ ም ፡ ዬ ታ ዩ ፡ ወ ፭ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ መ ጠ ፬ ቴ ፡ ለ ሡ ሉ ም ፡ ይ ኽ ሡ ፮ ፊ ፡ ጣ ዩ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ለ ሡ ኳ ፡ ፫ ጠ ለ ች ፡ ወ ሬ ፡ ዩ ለ ሙ ጠ ኽ ፡ ፪ መ ር ። ። ለ ሡ ኳ ም ፡ ኦ ር ለ ዎ ፡ ሲ ጠ ሉ ኽ ፡ ጣ ሞ ች ፡ ዩ ሽ ለ ና ፊ ና ፡ ሥ ለ ፡ ለ ኣ ገ ሬ ኳ ፡ ፪ ለ ፭ ፬ ሽ ። ። ይ ላ ሞ ፡ ለ ኔ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ፲ ኳ ሠ ይ ፡ ይ ለ ፭ ሽ ፡ ሳ ለ ወ ጣ ፡ ፪ ጠ ፭ ቤ ፡ ሳ ኩ ለ ኽ ፡ ለ ሡ ሉ ም ፡ ለ ሡ ሉ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ክ ሻ ራ ፡ ሳ ይ በ ዛ ፡ ሥ ረ ጣ ጠ ሡ ፡ ታ ባ ሬ ፡ ለ ከ ፫ ባ ለ ሡ ። ። ሂ ሻ ቴ ለ ፡ ሥ ጸ ፫ ፡ በ ፮ ለ ጥ ሪ ሴ ፡ ሃ ፬ ፡ ይ ባ ለ ፡ ለ ሽ ከ ር ዎ ፡ ለ ፪ ፪ ወ ር ቁ

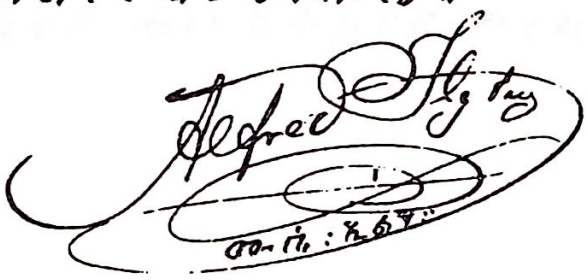
111. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
"Zurich 9 April 1895"

ይድረስ ፡ ለኢሉጌ ፡ ጣ ፡ ይሙ ፡ በርሳሄ ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ፡ መዲናቴ ፡ ቁለም ፡ ጠና ፡ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡ ኡኩ ፡ እሩሣለሁ ። በየካቲት ፡ በ፪ቱ ፡ ደብዳቤ ፡ ልኬብዎ ፡ ነበር ፡ መቂረሱን ፡ አለ ፡ መቂረሱን ፡ አላወቁትም ። መሙሴ ፡ ሽፍቴ ፡ የኢሉጌ ፡ ደሳነኛት ፡ ቢፊክሙኝ ፡ ኡኩ ፡ ደስ ፡ አለኝ ። የወይዘሮ ፡ ዘውዲሙ ፡ ልኩ ፡ ያመጥፌት ፡ በሰዓት ፡ ሄኩሳ ፡ ሳዲረግ ፡ አዘኑሁ ። ኡሳዚ አንብሔር ፡ ሄርስቃን ፡ ቤትዎቿ ፡ አገሯ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ይጠበቅ ፡ ብዬ ፡ አለጣሳናለሁ ።

እሜጌ ፡ ሆይ ። ኡስትክ ፡ ዞረ ፡ ዲረስ ፡ ካገሬ ፡ ያመሽት ፡ ሰላገባ ፡ በዙ ፡ ቀኔ ፡ ሥቀጣሳጥሁ ፡ አሁንም ፡ ሰላረኩ ፡ ለቫባየግሌ ፡ ጌዜ ፡ ባባ ሰንብ ፡ ይግበኛል፡ብዬ ፡ ደአገሬ ፡ ልኩ ፡ ሆታለቅ ፡ ነው ፡ ልኩ ፡ አግበሁ ። ዝርዝሙ ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ሰ ለ ፡ ሆነኑ ፡ ነገ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ለቁመ ያመጣት ፡ ሥፌለጋ ለኑ ። በርስዎ ፡ ውቃቤ ፡ መንግዩ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ በደኅና ፡ ኡንደኑ ሰላቃሙ ፡ አፅበረ ጠረ ያመ ። ደግሞ ፡ ኢሉጌ ፡ ለር ሲ ፡ ኡንዩ ፡ ለኔ ፡ ዘለፃ ፡ ይሆናሉ ፡ ብዬ ፡ ሥስቅ ፡ አለኝ ። ለ ወለሉ ፡ ዐፃ ርደያመ ፡ ለ ልኪኹ ፡ ኡኔ ፡ በጣያመ ፡ አሰ ጣ ለሁና ፡ ያመ ኔ ያመ ፡ ኡነኑ ይኑግረ ፡ አደረጋ ለሁ ። ያመ ሽሙ ፡ ለ ኢቄጌ ፡ በጣያመ ፡ ኡኩ ፡ ሥኑሣለኹ ፡ ና ፡ ባሌ ፡ የዝ ዙ ፡ ቀን ፡ ሱሌኔ ፡ ሰለ ፡ ሆ ነ ፡ የኔ ፡ አይጠሉኝ ፡ ሥለለኹ ።

ኡሳዚ አንብሔ ር ፡ በደኅና ፡ ለጣግኙኝ ፡ ደበቃ ። ።

ደለል ፡ የኢሉጌ ፡ ሉሌ ።



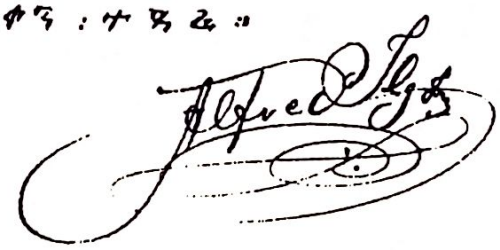
112. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Zurich 9 April "1895"

የተላከ ፡ ከሙሴ ፡ ኢልግ ፡ ይድረስ ፡ ከክቡር ፡ ወዲ ፣ ከራስ ፡ መኰንን ፡ ማዩታኔ ፡ ቁለም ፡ ጠሩ ፡ ይሰጥልኝ ፡ ብዙ ፡ ሰላም ፣ እኔ ፡ ሥልሁ ፡ እንድጉን ፡ አንዲት ፡ ነገር ፡ ሳሃዘ አብሐር ፡ ይመሰግን ፡ ዲሩና ፡ ነኝ ። በመጋቢት ፡ በ፳ኛው ፡ የሞዲፌ ፡ ዲብ ዲቤዎ ፡ ይረስልኝና ፡ እድዩ ፡ ዲስ ፡ አለኝ ። የወይዘሮ ፡ ዘውዲቱ ፣ ልጅ ፡ ምኑሽ ፣ ቢሉኝ ፡ እንድሣ ፡ አዘንሁ ። ሬሳው ራሪ ፡ ሉክለ ፡ ማየርያም ፣ ይሩና ፡ ቁን ፡ ሰይወጣለቹ ፣ ቢሞት ፡ እንድ፣ ፡ አዘዘኔኝ ። እኔ ፡ በሞህሳስ ፣ በ፲ቁን ፡ ና ፡ በጥር ፣ በ፱ቁን ፣ ይብዲ ቤ ፡ ልጌ ፡ ሩበር ፡ ምይረሱን ፣ ካለ ፣ ምይረሱን ፣ አሳወቁት ም ። ልጅ ፡ ጉላሣ ፡ ቱጣው ፡ ና ፡ ዓፄ ፡ወርቅ ፡ አጣሑቹን ፡ በጣም ፡ ለማዱ ፡ ደን ቋ ፡ በጣ ም ፡ ይባየሩሉ ። አሁን ፡ ወዲ ፡ ሩሽቱል ፡ ሚባል ፡ ከሉሳየ ፡ በታላ ቅ ፡ ትዕየሪ ፡ ቤት ፡ ገቡ ።

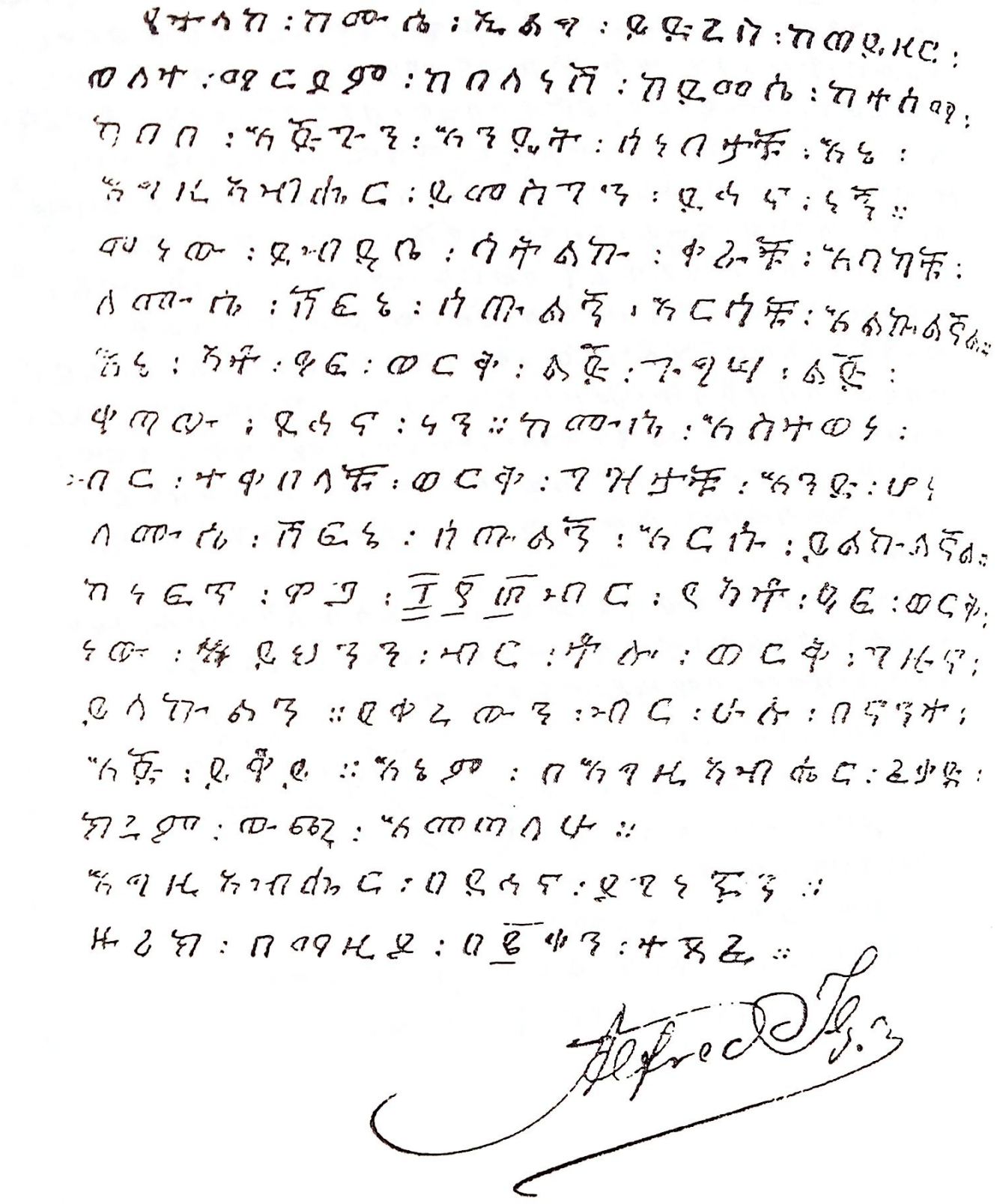
እኔ ፡ ሳላረጅ ፡ ለሲላ ፡ ማሰላጣ ፡ ይግበኛል ፡ ጣዩ ፡ ደግረ ፡ የታላቅ ፡ ሰው ፡ ልጅ ፡ አገባሁ ። አጅግ ፡ መልካም ም ፡ ልጅ ፡ ና ት ፡ ነነ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ወዲ ፡ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ለምሆድ ፡ አትፈራም ። ለ ሽሃ ፡ ደለሁ ፡ ለሺቹ ፡ ና ፡ ለ ወለት ፡ ማየ ርያም ፡ ሄኔ ፡ በጣ ም ፡ አሰባለሁ ። አገድ ፡ ሩበርስያ ፡ ይለ ፡ ወዲጅ ፡ ከለ ፡ ምንም አይቹግረም ። አገራቹ ፡ ጦር ፡ ሉሩሣ ፡ ቢነግ ፡ አጅግ ፡ አዘንሁ ፡ ሩገር ፡ ግን ፡ የሚ አስፈራ ፡ አይ ይለም ። ኡጣ ሊይሩቹ ፡ ጦር ፡ አይቹሁም ። ይር ፡ ግን ፡ ዘረ ፡ የውጋያ ፡ ሉን ፡ አይዲለም ፡ ዲሩና ፡ ቁን ፡ ሳይዲርስ ፡ አይሉረም ና ፡ ኺንሆይ ፡ ስንመለስ ፡ ቢጠበቁ ፡ ይሸላል ። ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ግራ ፡ ሚ አገባ ፡ አገር ሉ ፡ በርሳቹ ፡ ዘይስማ ወሙ ፡ ሩሠ ፡ አንኺ ፡ የረቹ ፡ አገር ፣ ቦ ር ፣ የጎብ ዙ ፡ ሉን ፣ ወጋጊያ ፡ አይቹለም ፡ ዲፃም ፡ አጣሊያ ኖቹ ፡ ዝዙ ፡ ግን ዘአብ ፡ የሰኞም ። የዘረፈ ፡ ጦር ፡ ሙሴ ፡ ክሪስጢ ፡ ሌላ ፡ ሩገር ፡ አንዲ ናየሪ ወቱ ፡ የገዛ ፡ አገር ፡ ሰዎቹ ፡ ይሩሩቹ ፡ አነዲራሉ ፣ ሩሠ ፡ አንኺ ፡ አንዲሃ ፡ ሠፃ ዲረጉ ።

ነበሩ ፣ ጋዜጣ ፡ ወደ ፣ ሺ ፣ ወይ ፡ ፋክደላሁ ። ነ ው ፡ ኑ ፣ ይ ደ ነ ቀ ር ፡ በ መ ሬ ፡
ሸ ፎ ፣ ሰ ም ፡ ሰ ደ ዱ ሁ ። ኢ ባ ክ ፣ አ ዬ ሱ ና ፡ ች ሉ ፡ ወ ደ ፣ ነ ገ ዉ ፡ ይ ላ ኩ ሳ ። ።
ደ አ ሉ ኝ ፣ ፲ ሺ ህ ፡ ዝ ር ፣ ወ ደ ፣ ሰ የ ር ነ ሊ ደ ፡ ይ ላ ኩ ፋ ኝ ፡ ች ሉ ፡ ኢ ን ዲ ጸ ር ኬ ፡
ቀ ን ፣ ኢ ን ዲ ው ፣ ች ሉ ፡ ያ ለ ፈ ለ ፡ አ ዬ ሑ ዎ ን ። ደ ነ ፃ ፀ ፀ ፡ ሺ ን ሆ ይ ፣ ደ ወ ር ቅ ፡
መ ዘ ው ር ፣ ች ሉ ፡ ገ ዛ ፡ ዝ ሉ ፡ ለ ኩ ፡ ዝ ኝ ። ደ ያ ዐ ዘ ው ር ፣ ዋ ጋ ፣ ፲ ፬ ሺ ህ ፣
ነ በ ር ፡ ሊ ሆ ን ፣ ት ው ። ሺ ን ሆ ይ ፡ በ ሸ ሸ ፡ ደ ከ ሲ ት ፡ በ ፲ ፬ ቀ ን ፡ ፈ ተ ፃ ፌ ፣ ደ ዝ ያ ፊ ፣
ኢ ን ዲ ህ ፣ ይ ላ ፋ ፈ ደ ወ ር ሁ ን ፣ መ ዘ ው ር ፡ መ ን ዣ ር ፡ ኑ ን ሃ ፡ ኢ ን ፍ ላ ክ ህ ፣
ሰ ኖ ፣ ዝ ዩ ፡ ፋ ኬ በ ታ ላ ሁ ፡ ለ ፊ ስ ፣ መ ኩ ን ን ፣ ኢ ን ሃ ፣ ኢ ን ዲ ላ ክ ህ በ ቅ ፣ ደ ሰ ጣ ፋ ።
ኣ ሁ ን ያ ም ፡ ሄ ባ ክ ው ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፣ ይ ህ ን ን ፣ ፲ ፬ ሺ ህ ፣ ዝ ር ፣ ለ መ ሬ ፡ ፒ ደ ን ፣
ባ የ ር ሰ ለ ደ ፣ ላ ይ ፡ ደ ደ ረ ጉ ፋ ኝ ፣ የ ወ ር ቅ ፡ መ ዘ ው ር ፣ ኣ በ ኝ ፣ ዝ ዬ ፣
ለ ባ የ ዘ ገ ዘ ፡ ኑ ን ዲ ጠ ቅ ኝ ። ነ በ ር ች ፡ የ ወ ር ቅ ፡ ሥ ራ ፡ የ ባ ቢ ኣ ወ ቅ ፣
ለ ወ ኃ ን ዲ ነ ፡ ኣ ወ ር ፣ ኣ ፋ ካ ላ ሁ ። ቀ ን ፣ ኝ ለ ፡ ነ በ ፋ ሃ ች ፣ ኑ ን ዲ ይ ፋ ፍ ር ፣
ተ በ ደ ረ ፣ ኣ ሰ በ ኝ ላ ሁ ፡ ያ ዐ ዘ ው ሯ ለ ኢ ባ ክ ው ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፣ ኑ ን ዲ ላ ፈ ር ፡
ገ ን ዘ ብ ፡ ኑ ን ዲ ይ ቀ ረ ጎ ፀ ኝ ። ደ ነ ፃ ፀ ፀ ፣ የ ሱ ን ች ፡ ረ ፀ ይ ን ሂ ች ን ፡ ና ፎ ጥ ፡
ኣ ጣ ኗ ሁ ፣ ኑ ፃ ር ፡ ቲ ን ፡ ን ና ፡ ኣ ፋ ገ ዘ ሁ ያ ዐ ። ገ ን ዘ ብ ፡ ች በ ዲ ሬ ፣
በ ዝ ዙ ፡ ኣ ፋ ካ ላ ሁ ና ፣ ሲ መ ጣ ፡ ኣ ፋ ከ ኣ ዉ ዐ ላ ሁ ፣ በ ዝ መ ን ገ ድ ፡ ኢ ን ዲ ይ
ሰ ኑ በ ት ።

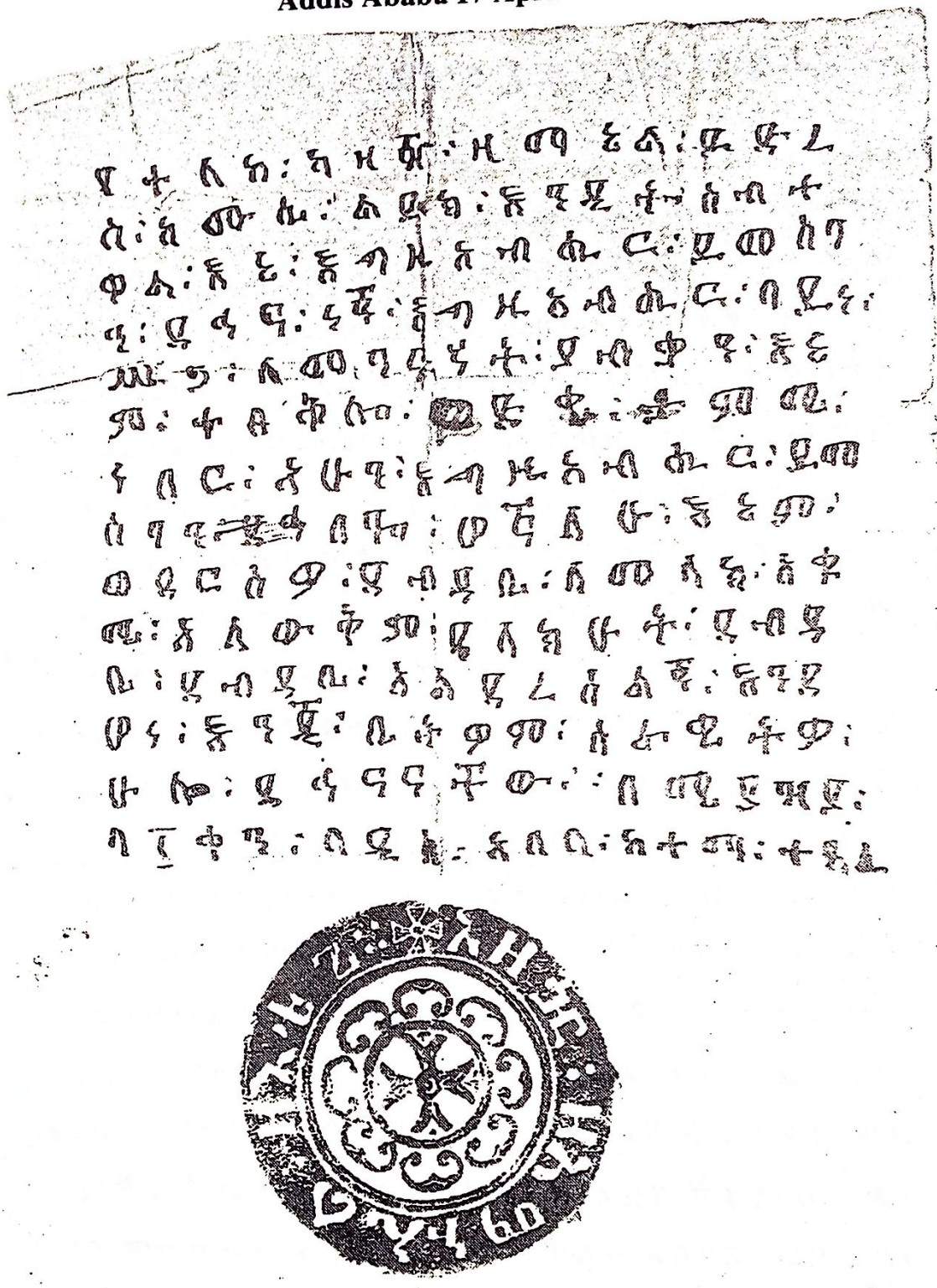
ኢ ባ ክ ው ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ያ ዐ ዲ ረ ሱ ን ፡ ይ ላ ክ ፋ ኝ ና ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ገ ን ይ ፡
ይ ኣ ራ ፋ ኝ ፣ ኣ ዲ ራ ዎ ን ። ኑ ኅ ዚ ኣ ን ብ ሰ ር ፣ በ ዲ ሳ ና ፡ ደ ኅ ና ኑ ን ።
በ ዙ ሪ ክ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፣ በ ማ ዞ ሪ ደ ፡ ፲ ፮ ቀ ን ፡ ፡ ኳ ሬ ።



113. Alfred Ilg to Walatta Māryām
Zurich 9 April "1895"



114. Zāmānuᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 April "1895"



115. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 23 April 1895

ቦ ኵ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ገ ኍ ይ ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡ አ ፃ ፪ ፻ ር ፡ ኤ ል ፣ ፡ ገ ኍ ፮ ፡ ፲ ፲ ጊ ዜ ፡ እ ኵ ፡ እ ነ ሠ ሰ ሡ ፡ ፦

ገ ኍ ፮ ፡ እ ው ነ ቱ ን ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ሳ ክ ኻ ኽ ፡ ይ ሱ ኖ ል ፡ ከ ዚ ሀ ፡ ቀ ደ ም ም ፡ እ ው ነ ቱ ን ፡ ነ ው ፡ ይ ሳ ክ ሡ በ ዎ ። ም ን ፡ ሀ ሰ ኑ ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ል ኪ ኻ ፦ ነ በ ር ፡ ፦ አ ሡ ን ም ፡ ይ ው ፡ ቃ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ሲ ሳ ም ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ደ ሰ ኻ ፡ ፦ ሰ ጅ ን ሠ ይ ም ፡ ደ ጳ ቡ ሡ ኑ ፡ እ ሄ ን ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ደ ሰ ሙ ኑ ን ፡ ሡ ሉ ም ፡ አ ይ ዲ ለ ፡ ፦ እ ው ነ ኑ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ከ ር ሰ ዎ ና ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኽ ቡ ኒ ፡ ን ረ ፡ ጂ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ው ል ፡ ማ ድ ረ ን ኞ ው ን ፡ ለ ሳ ው ቅ ፡ በ ፌ ኑ ፡ ድ ቁ ን ፡ የ ኤ ው ሮ ፓ ፡ ለ ው ፡ ኮ ም ፓ ኻ ፪ ፡ ሡ ም ፡ ሬ ፈ ን ለ ቂ ም ፡ ኢ ጣ ሊ ያ ም ፡ የ ሲ ሳ ው ፡ አ ገ ር ፡ መ ን ግ ሥ ኑ ፡ ለ ው ም ፡ አ ን ድ ነ ኑ ፡ ኩ ባ ን ያ ፡ አ ድ ር ን ፡ ወ ዲ በ ኽ ፡ ባ ቡ ር ፡ ሲ አ ወ ጣ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ቢ ባ ል ፡ ለ ው ፡ ሡ ሉ ፡ ገ ና ፡ ዝ ሬ ፡ ሳ በ ኽ ፡ በ ረ ሀ ው ፡ ጋ ኻ ው ፡ ነ በ ረ ፡ ባ ቡ ር ፡ ላ ን ፡ ሑ ወ ጣ ፡ አ በ ሽ ፡ ጋ ኻ ው ፡ መ ቀ ቢ ዱ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ዛ ላ ሱ ፡ ቡ ጥ ረ ቱ ፡ አ ወ ሯ ው ። ። እ ሄ ነ ን ፡ ከ በ ሰ ማ ፡ ለ ው ፡ ሰ ባ ረ ፡ ጥ ቂ ሉ ፡ የ ማ ያ ስ ኽ ፡ ይ ሰ ም ና ፡ ይ ሬ ቂ ን ም ፡ ኢ ጣ ሊ አ ም ኽ ም ፡ ከ ባ ቡ ራ ፡ ኩ ባ ን ያ ፡ ሲ ሠ ኑ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ቢ ሉ ኻ ፡ የ ለ ማ ሁ ኑ ን ፡ ል ኪ ፡ ነ በ ር ። ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ን ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ን ና ፡ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኽ ቡ ኒ ን ፡ ስ ም ፡ ሰ ማ ለ ነ ቀ ጡ ፡ ስ ም ፡ ጠ ር ቱ ፡ ሰ ጅ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ል ኬ ፡ እ ን ደ ሠ ነ ፡ ም ኒ ል ክ ፡ ይ ሙ ኑ ፡ ል ሁ ን ፦ እ ሄ ነ ኡ ም ፡ የ ሳ ክ ሀ ኽ ፡ ገ ና ፡ እ ር ሰ ም ፡ ከ ጅ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ው ል ፡ ማ ድ ረ ን ኞ ሡ ን ፡ ለ ይ ነ ሳ ሩ ኻ ፡ በ ፌ ኑ ፡ ነ ው ። ከ ነ ገ ሩ ኻ ፡ በ ኋ ላ ፡ ላ ን ፡ ይ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ መ ሠ ኑ ን ፡ ባ ዉ ቅ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ ይ ነ ገ ር ኞ ሡ ። ። እ ን ዲ ል ነ ላ ረ ዎ ም ፡ ፌ ር ቱ ፡ ዝ ም ፡ አ ል ሡ ። ። ከ ሥ ም ፡ ሳ ነ ዉ ቅ ፡ በ ፌ ኑ ፡ ም ነ ው ፡ የ ባ ቡ ር ፡ ው ል ፡ ሲ ነ ገ ር ፡ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ል ላ ፡ ለ ም ን ፡ ዝ ም ፡ አ ሉ ፡ ሀ በ ፡ አ ም ኑ ፡ ነ በ ር ! ። አ ሄ ው ፡ ነ ው ፡ ቃ ሉ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ይ ሰ ኻ ። ። በ ቀ ረ ው ም ፡ ላ ረ ዝ ማ ኹ ፡ ሮ ሴ ቱ ፡ ያ ሳ በ ቂ ኑ ን ፡ ቢ ስ ሙ ፡

ምን፡ለ፱ ር፯ለሡ፡፦ እኔ፡ግን፡የ‘ውነቱን፡ቃል፡ተናግሯለሁ፡፦
በርሀም፡በመ‘ሰኔ፡ሽፍኒ፡ነግር፡ለር፲ል፡የጢለኝ፡አሡንም፡
ፈቀጣ።ለ፲ንሡ፱፡የሡለከ፡ነግር፡መ‘ቹም፡ለ፱፲በቅ፡ሡለን
ም፡፻ግኙ፲ል።።የ ግ ዛ፡አባ፲ን፡ለ ማ ለነቀ፱፡መጻ ፈ ን፡ለ ው
ም፡ለ፱ ለኝ።።ዲ ጣ ሙም፡አር ጣ ጡን፡ነግር፡ከ፲ንሡ፱፡፻ግኙ፲
ል።።አር ለ ም ለ፡መ ሳ ው ን፡መ‘ቹ፡፻ ጡ ፲ ል፡እን፱ም ን፡ለ ፫ር
ኜ፡አር ለ ም፡፲ባ ሎ ነሎ፡በ ቀ ር፡ም ን፡ለ ሉ ኝ፡ግ ፱፡እ መ ቀ ኝ ም፡
መ ለ ለ ም።፦ ነ ግ ር፡ጣ ን፡የ ጣ ፲ ሡ ዝ መ ጭ ን ና ፡፱ ነ ን፡ነ ግ ር፡፻
ቄ ፱፡.፻ ፱ ፲ ል።።ግ ና፡ከ፲ንሡ፱፡ለ ፱፡ጉ ፫ ፱፡አ ለ ነ፡እ ው ሎ፡
ለ መ ው ጣ ሎ ና፡ጉ ፫፡ለ መ ግ ለ ለ ኛ፡፻በ ቃ ና ል።፡ለ ዛ ፈ ፡እ ለ ሎ
ው ን፡አር ለ ም፡፻ወ ፫ ሉ ።።ለ ፲ ለ ው ም፡የ ሂ ን፡ሀ ለ ሎ ና ፡የ ለ
ቸ ው ን፡ሀ ለ ሎ ፡፻ ፻ ሉ ፡፦ ለ ሀ ነ ፡ጣ ን፡ግ ና ፡ጣ ፈ ፡ዝ መ ጭ ፡
ዮ ሴ ፫ ፡እ ን ፫ ግ ና ፡ለ ነ መ ሴ ፡ሽ ፍ ኒ ፡እ ሄ ነ ፡ቃ ል ፡አ ን ፫ ፫ ፲ ል ፡
ነ ግ ር ፡አ ፫ ፫ ሬ ን ፡፫ ነ ጣ ፈ ሉ ፡ወ ፫ ፲ ቸ ም ፡ሡ ሉ ፡፫ ለ ሡ በ ወ ለ ።።፦
አ ወ ነ ቱ ፡እ ለ ቲ ባ ኛ ፡እ ር ለ ም ም ም ፡በ ኔ ፡፫ ና ፲ ፱ ሉ ።።፦

Neuchâtel 23 April 1895 አሸከር ም፡አ ፈ ወ ር ቁ ።።፦

116. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 8 May 1895

ዋ ድ ሬ ስ ።

ለ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ል ግ ፡ አ ን ጀ ን ር ። ሃ ታ ዩ ፡ መ ድ ኃ ኒ ዓ ለ
ም ፡ ጠ ና ፡ ይ ለ ጥ ል ኝ ፡ ከ ዩ ፡ ፲ ፲ ፯ ዜ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሣ ለ ሁ ። ፦ ወ ግ
በ ዎ ን ፡ አ ን ዩ ም ን ፡ ሁ ነ ዋ ል ፡ አ ል ተ ሻ ለ ዎ ም ን ። እ ኔ ፡ እ
ሳ ዜ አ ጣ ለ ሰ ር ፡ ይ መ ስ ገ ን ፡ ይ ሃ ን ፡ ነ ኝ ። ፦ ።—
ሃ ታ ዩ ፡ ያ ነ ን ፡ ፫ ፲ ቱ ፲ ፡ ሶ ስ ት ፡ መ ቶ ፡ ከ ሀ ፡ ዝ ር ፡ ሰ መ
ቤ ቱ ፡ እ ል ካ ለ ሁ ፡ ከ ዜ አ ው ፡ እ ን ኳ ት ሶ ስ ፡ ዝ ለ ው ኝ ፡
ነ በ ር ። አ ሁ ን ም ፡ እ ባ ክ ዎ ን ፡ ከ መ ቤ ቱ ፡ ን ፡ ይ ሳ ኡ ል ኝ ፡
ወ ር ቅ ፡ እ ን ዩ ግ ዛ ል ኝ ። ፦ እ ኔ ም ፡ እ ሄ ው ፡ ወ ዩ መ ቤ ቱ ፡
ዩ ዝ ኬ ቤ ፡ ል ኬ ፡ አ ሰ ሁ ን ፡ ቀ ሱ ን ፡ ሳ ይ ተ ው ፡ እ ር ስ ዋ
ም ፡ ሰ መ ቤ ቱ ፡ ይ ጻ ኤ ል ኝ ። ፦ ኗ ላ ም ፡ ከ ዛ ሬ ፡ በ ሬ ሱ ፡
ካ ሙ ሪ ፡ ሳ በ ሬ ፡ ዩ ኗ ረ ኩ ኝ ፡ ዝ ር ፡ መ ቀ በ ሳ ቹ ው ን ን ፡
ሰ ሳ መ ቀ በ ሳ ቹ ው ን ፡ አ ሳ ወ ቁ ሡ ኡ ም ። ። ወ ዩ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ሙ
ሴ ፡ ክ በ ሬ ፡ ስ ጠ ሡ ፡ የ ሚ ሳ ፡ ቁ ሳ ፡ አ ሳ ኩ በ ዎ ም ን ፡ ወ ዩ ፡ ፡
ወ ር ቅ ም ፡ የ ሱ ግ ዛ ል ኝ ፡ እ ን ዩ ሠ ን ፡ በ ር ስ ዎ ፡ በ ኩ ል ፡
ነ በ ር ፡ ይ ሚ መ ጣ ። አ ሁ ን ፡ ላ ን ፡ ዞ ን የ ሽ ኝ ። ዝ ር ን ፡ እ
መ ቤ ቱ ፡ ሰ ል ተ ቀ በ ሱ ፡ እ ን ዩ ሠ ን ፡ ይ መ ስ ሰ ኖ ል ። ሳ
ሁ ሱ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ እ ር ስ ዎ ም ፡ ቢ ጠ ይ ቁ ፡ ዩ ታ ለ ዋ ል ፡ ሃ ታ የ ። ፦
በ ሳ ን በ ት ፡ ባ ፎ ቀ ን ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ኔ ቫ ቼ ል ፡ አ ተ ማ ። ፦
እ መ ቤ ቱ ን ም ፡ ፲ ፲ ፯ ዜ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሣ ለ ሁ ። ፦

እ ሽ ከ ር ም ፡ ሰ ሬ ወ ር ቅ ። ፡ ፦

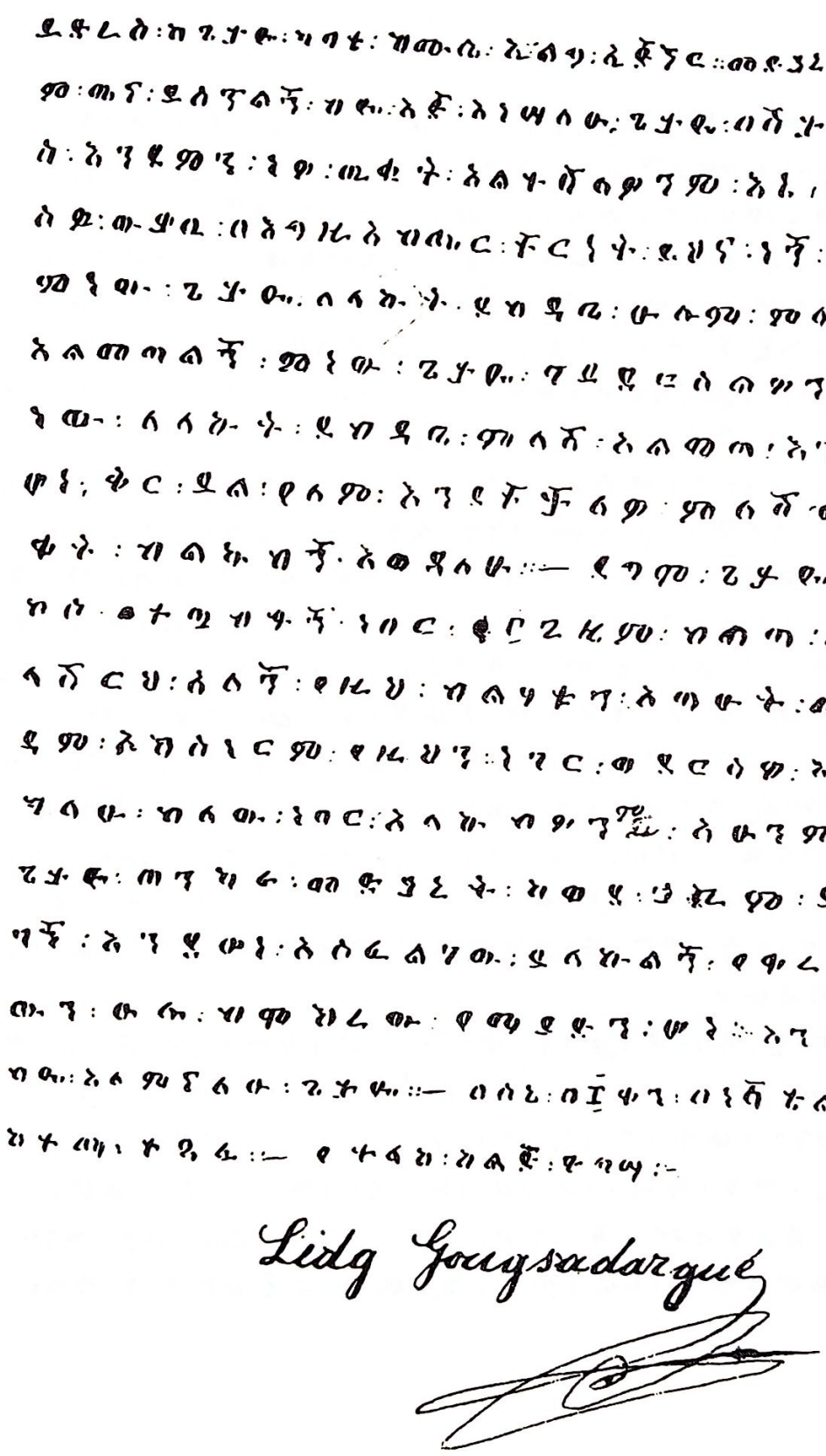
117. Qeṭāw Zāmānuʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 15 May "1895"

118. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Zurich 11 June "1895"

ደ.ዮ.ረ.ስ፡ ከ.ገ.ታ.ዩ.፡ ን.ግ.ቴ፡ ለ.መ.ሴ፡ ኦ.ል.ፎ.ሬ.ዩ፡
ኢ.ል.ን፡ መ.ዩ.ኃ.ረ፡ ዓ.ለ.ም፡ ለ.ና፡ ደ.ስ.ፕ.ል.ኝ፡ ዘ.ዩ.፡
ኦ.ፎ፡ ስ.ነ.ሣ.ለ.ሁ፡ ገ.ታ.ዩ፡ ለ.ሽ.ታ.ሣ.ኒ.ስ፡ በ.ጌ፡ ለ.ደ
ደ.ለ.ም፡ ዘ.ሬ፡ ፕ.ቂ.ት፡ ሃ.ሻ.ለ.ሃ.ን፡ ኦ.ን.ደ.ም.ን፡ ነ
ሣ፡ ኦ.ን፡ ለ.ር.ስ፡ ሣ፡ ሙ.ሃ.ዲ፡ ለ.ኦ.ፃ.ዚ.ስ.ዘ.ጠ.ር፡ ች
ር.ነ.ት፡ ደ.ዘ.ና፡ ነ.ች።— ይ.ገ.ዙ፡ ደ.ዝ.ሂ.ዲ፡ ል.ክ.ሣ
ሣ፡ ነ.ለ.ር፡ ለ.ል.ደ.ረ.ስ.ል.ሃ.ን፡ በ.ደ.ደ.ር.ስ.ል.ሃ.ነ.ው፡
መ.ሰ.ለ.ች፡ ደ.ዞ.ደ፡ ም.ለ.ሽ፡ ለ.ል.መ.ጣ.ል.ች.ሃ.ል።—
ስ.ሁ.ን.ሃ.ል፡ ን.ዞ.ደ፡ ን.ሂ.ደ.በ.ት፡ ኦ.ግ.ር፡ ት.ለ.ን.ት.ና፡
ወ.ዩ፡ ዞ.ራ.ዝ፡ መ.መ.ለ.ስ.ሃ.ን፡ ሰ.ማ.ሁ፡ ወ.ደ.ህ.ና፡
መ.ጭ.ረ.ስ.ሣ.ን፡ ደ.ደ.ህ.ን.ነ.ት.ሃ.ን፡ ነ.ግ.ር፡ ሃ.ለ.ሽ፡
ደ.ዝ.ዲ.ሊ፡ ስ.ነ.ዜ.ል.ኩ.ዝ.ች።፡ ዘ.ዩ፡ ስ.ለ.ሃ.ኖ.ለ.ሁ፡ ጊ.ታ.ዩ።—
ስ.ጋ.ወ.መ.ሊ.ኬ.ን፡ ስ.ነ.ዲ.ሃ.ን፡ ለ.ን.ዚ.ህ፡ ዘ.ሪ.ል፡ ዘ.ለ.ሁ፡ ለ.ኅ
ዩ.፡ ስ.ኖ፡ ስ.ነ.ሣ.ለ.ሁ፡ ስ.ን.ዲ.ህ፡ ዘ.ሪ.ል፡ ዘ.ለ.ሁ፡ ለ.ኅ
ሃ.ለ.ሁ፡ ደ.ን.ን.ሩ.ል.ች።— በ.ሰ.ፊ፡ በ.ፈ.ራ.ን.ን፡ በ.ዞ.ራ.ነ፡
ዘ.ኑ.ወ.ሣ፡ ኑ.ጻ.ፌ።— የ.ኑ.ለ.ነ፡ ነ.ል.ጅ፡ ጉ.ላ.ሣ።—ደ.ስ.ደ.ይ.ለ.ን
ሃ.ለ፡ ቀ.ዳ.ሲ.ኦ፡ ደ.ረ Gougsa ሰ.ን፡ ል.ዞ.ስ.ዘ.ጠ.ር፡ደ
ስ.ፕ.ል.ን፡ ጊ.ታ.ዩ።—

345
436 30
481. 30

119. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 14 June "1895"



Lidg Gougsadargué

Documents

120. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Zurich 8 July "1895"

475

የተላከ፡ከጡሬ፡ኢሊፕ፡ይድረስ፡ከራስ፡መኮንን፡መድኃኔ፡ቀለም፡ጤና፡ይስጥልኝ፡ብዬ፡ሕዙ፡አነሣለሁ።ሕዙጉን፡እንዲኑ፡ስነበቅ፡ስጌ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ይመስገን፡ዲሳና፡ነኝ።ከሁር፡ወደኛ፡ሆይ።በማዚደይ፡በ፮ቀን፡ዲብሪቤ፡ልኬብዎ፡ነበር፡መላሽ፡መንም፡ሰይመጣልኝ፡ቅጂ፡ደግሞ፡ብር፡እንዲም፡አልመጠልኝም፡እኛን፡ሙኾገር፡ደብሁና፡አዘናለሁ።መነው፡ጌታዬ፡ባይሆን፡ሁሉንም፡ይቀር፡ነበሉ፡እይልክልኝ፡ነበር።እኔ፡ለናንተ፡እህንን፡አሃል፡ሲላፉ፡፩ዲብ፲ቤ፡ይቆቷል።

ፓሪስ፡ከሎባ፡ሄኛ፡ጦስ፡ሲግር፡ጅን፡አዩሁ።ጉዲይ፡ሁሉ፡እንዲት፡ነው፡ወዬ፡ቢላኽ፡ከራስ፡መኮንን፡ዲግ፡ዲሃ፡ቃለና፡ዲብዲቤ፡ቢኽ፡ነው፡እንኛ፡፭ፍሬቋም፡ነገር፡ይለም፡ችሉኝ።ሐስ፡መኮንን፡አም፡ሰፈር፡ሁሉ፡በዘይላ፡ዝኩል፡ይውጣ፡ይሉኛል፡አለኝ።የራስ፡ጬቃር፡ከዋፍ፡ነው፡እንኛ፡ከልክ፡ኒአይሂለም፡አሉኝ።መሄው፡ጌታዬ፡የሚጣጣውን፡እያስቡ።የፍራንሳዊ፡ዘንግሥት፡ዝር፡ሎሎዘግ፡ነፍኖና፡ካርቱሽ፡በዘይላ፡ዝኩል፡ሊወጣ፡ነው።እንዲ፡ፍራንሳዊ፡ደግሉንሳዊ፡ይግለግሉ፡የለም።እንድ፡ፍራንሳዊ፡የከስረ፡ይሉም።ከፍራንሳዊ፡ጋራ፡ካልሉስጣ፡መን፡ሊሆዎት፡ነው።ኧኔ፡እውነት፡እነነን፡ሁሉ፡ሲሰማ፡ኧኛ፡ሎ፡ንቋቸው፡ና፡ራሷ፡ወከንንገርኝ፡አልሁ።ወዲኛ፡ነታኽ፡አት ጠራጠረ፡አልሁ።

ከርስዎ፡መኽ፡አጡቅ፡ታላቅ፡ክብሉ፡ይጠሊያናሽ፡ና፡ኢንግሊዞች፡ናቸው፡ለነዚህ፡ለመን፡ይረዳ፡ሎ፡ወዲኛ፡ምጠበቅ፡አይሸለም።

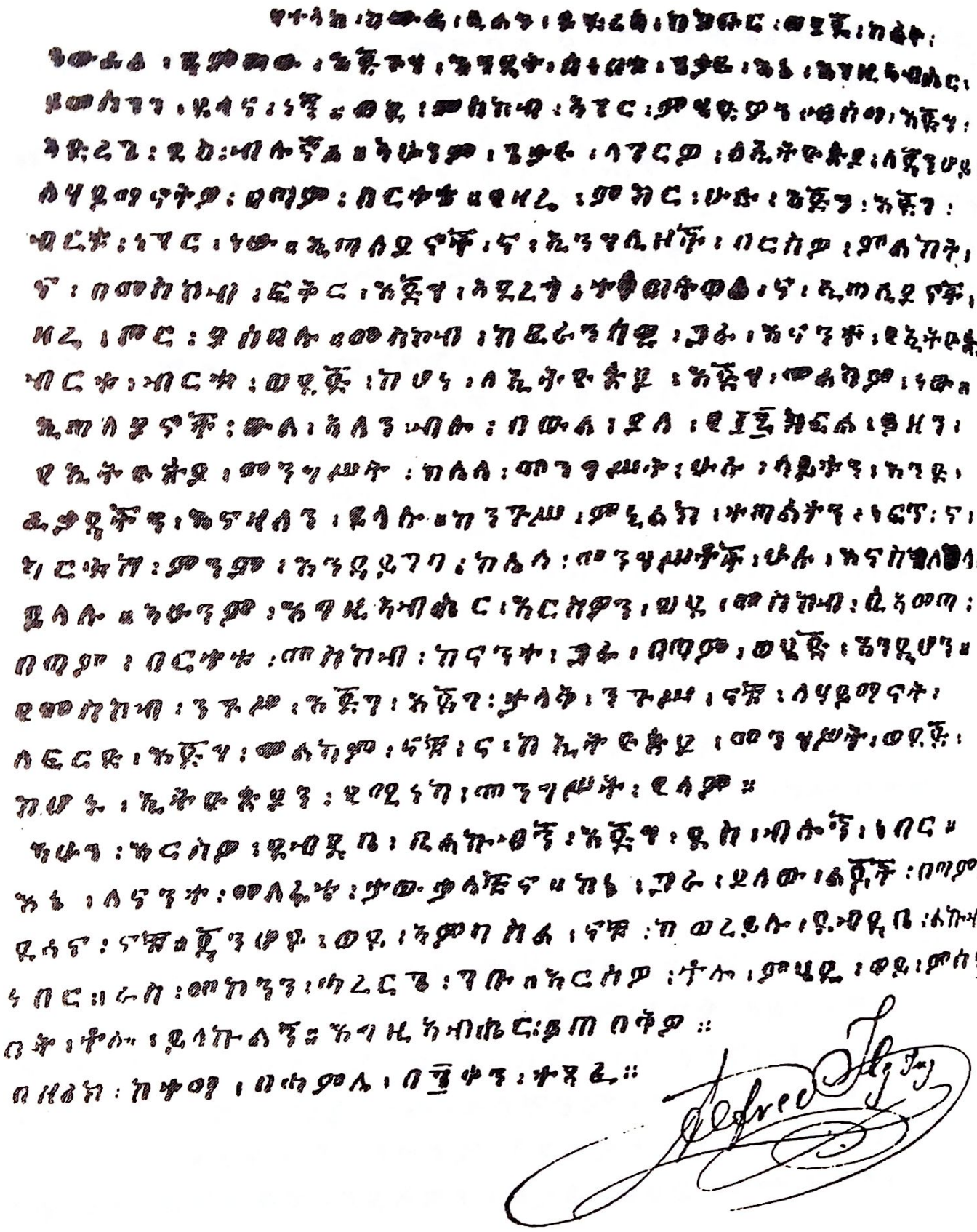
እኔም፡እህንን፡ሁሉ፡ምላኬ፡አርክዎን፡ና፡አግርዎን፡ቢወዲኩ፡ነው፡የዞረ፡ቃን፡ክፌ፡ነው፡ሁለኛንም፡አንድ፡ጋ፡ካለሆነ፡ሂሣ፡ነገር፡ችሉኝለም።አሁንም፡አዲራዎን፡ከፍራንሳዊ፡አንድ አይጠሉ፡ይጠንቀቁ፡አዲራዎን፡ጌታዬ፡ወዲኛ።ከጡሬ፡ሽፍኑ፡

ጋራ ፡ ዲግሞ ፡ ኣዲራዎጓ ፡ በዚኣና ፡ ይስማመሙ ። ኣርሱ ፡ ለናጓሎ ፡ ኣዕሩኺ ፡ ለሬ ፡ መስጋና ፡ ኖ ፡ መሠማመጓ ፡ ቢቻ ፡ ገፍ ፡ ኡኣጊ ኛሁም ፡ ብሉ ፡ ለክብኛ ። ኣናመኑም ፡ ኣላኹ ፡ ኣኮ ፡ ኣለ ፡ ብፊሃኑ ፡ ለመጓ ፡ ኣንለሬ,ሊኛ። ኣበክዎ ፡ ጄታዊ ፡ ቆሉ ፡ ቆሉ ፡ ወጊላ ሸ ፡ ይኣክ-ሐኛ ፡ ፊቤ ፡ ኣይረፈም ፡ ተቸገረ ፡ ኣኖራለሁ ።

ሐኹ ፡ ጉዛሣ ፡ ና ፡ ል ኹ ፡ ቅጠዉ ፡ ቆ ር ፡ ወር ቅ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ዚኣና ፡ ናኹ ። ቦቱም ፡ ኣኹ ፡ ኣኑሣሉ ።

ኣጣዚ ኣመሰኩር ፡ በዚኣና ፡ ደኻ ኑኛ ። ኣበክዎ ፡ ኣኩራ ኽኛ ። በሙሪክ ፡ ከሙወ ፡ በሐምሌ ፡ ቢ ቆ ቀጣ ፡ ሙኽ ።

121. Alfred Ilg to Dāmṭāw Aṭnāf Saggad
Zurich 12 July "1895"



122. Alfred Ilg to Dāmṭāw Aṭnāf Saggad
Zurich 29 July "1895"

123. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 14 August 1895

124. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 18 August 1895

Neuchâtel ፲፰ août 1895

ይድረስ፡ ከጌታዬ፡ ካባቴ፡ ከመሪ፡ ኢሬላ፡
ጌታዬ፡ መድኃኔ፡ ዓለም፡ ጤና፡ ይስጥልኝ፡
ብዬ፡ ፲፭ ጊዜ፡ እጅ፡ እነሣለሁ።ጌታዬ፡ ጤ
ናዎን፡ እንደ፡ ሰንጣቃት ዋሪ።ወገበወ
ንለ፡እንዴት፡ነው።እኛ፡እላዚአ ብለሽር፡
ይመስገን፡ ይህና፡ነን።ትምርታችንን
ም፡ተጣተን፡እንማራለን።አስተማሪች
ነም፡እጅግ፡ሰርጉ·ተባቶ፡ይከተምረ
ናሬ።እኛም፡እሄወ·፡እግዥወስሮ፡ከጠሳ፡ቤት፡
እየሄድነ·መቀመጥ፡ትተን፡ለቅ ምርታችን፡
ጠቅ፡ነው·ይተጋን።

ጌታዬ፡ሰን ድ፡ነገር፡ጠቃ፡ሰስችላሬዋለሁ።
ከሶ፡ሠዬን፡አመኖልና፡አባከዎ፡ሰነሰድ፡ጉላ
ዘ፡እንደገዙላቸው፡ይሰ፡መድኃኔ፡ት፡ገዝ
ተሡ፡አዳራ፡ይስድዱልኝ።ሰይራ፡በጠር
ቴ፡ሰ ሞኖልና፡እስተሰስት፡ቀን፡ድረስ፡እ
ን ይሔስይልኝ፡ሰይራ፡ሰይራ።ይ ሰሡበት፡
ቤት፡ቁጥር ም፡እሄው፡ጉሬላዋለሁ፡ከታች።

Afewerk chez Mme Neipp
faubourg de l'hôpital N° 11 Neuchatel

125. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 18 August 1895

Neuchâtel 18 Août 1895.

ይድረስ፡ለጌታችን፡ለባታችን፡ለመሴ፡ኢሊግ፡
መድኃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠና፡ይስጥልን፡ለለን፡፲፲ጊዜ፡
አድ፡እንኑለን።አጩን፡አንዲት፡ለንለጠየቀ
ለ፡እኛ፡አባዚአለጠለር፡ይመስገን፡ይህና፡ነነ።
ይጠ፬ቢዎም፡ደረስነ፡አባዚአለጠለር፡ይስጥ
ለነ።ለንባ፬ሁም፡ጭሉ፡ጭሎ፡ቢለኩጠነ፡አድ
ባ፡ይስ፡ባለነ፡ነበር።ለመሠኑማ፡ጠዙ፡ለሠራ፡አን
ዲለጠም፡አናውቃለን።ጠቃ፡ጊዜ፡ቢአባኑ፡ቢፅ
ፌለነ፡አንወዲለን።ምንአለባት፡ያገራችንንም፡
ወሬ፡ቢለሙ፡ቢለኩጠነ፡ይስ፡ይለናለ።

አሄው፡የቤተክርስቲያንም፡ሴጥር፡ይለተመሬችንን
ም፡ለም፡ለካንለጥለ።አለተመሬችንም፡አድባ፡
ኮባሙ፡ይለተመርናለ፡አድባ፡ይባ፡አለተመሪ፡
ነወ።ኦ

ለመቤቱም፡ጠክኃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠና፡ይስጥልነ፡ጠለን፡
አድ፡እንኑለን።ጥቂት፡ቋይተን፡በፌረንሳዊ፡
ጽፌን፡አንልከለቸወለን፡ጥቂት፡አስኩንቸለ፡
ጠለን፡ነወ።አሁን፡በፌረንሳዊ!አለመፅ
ፍን።ኦ

ይባሉ፡ለ፩ ክፍዎ፡ክድ፡ጉላዛ፡ለድ፡ቀጣው፡

አፌወርቀ

126. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 27 August 1895

Neuchâtel 27. Août 1895

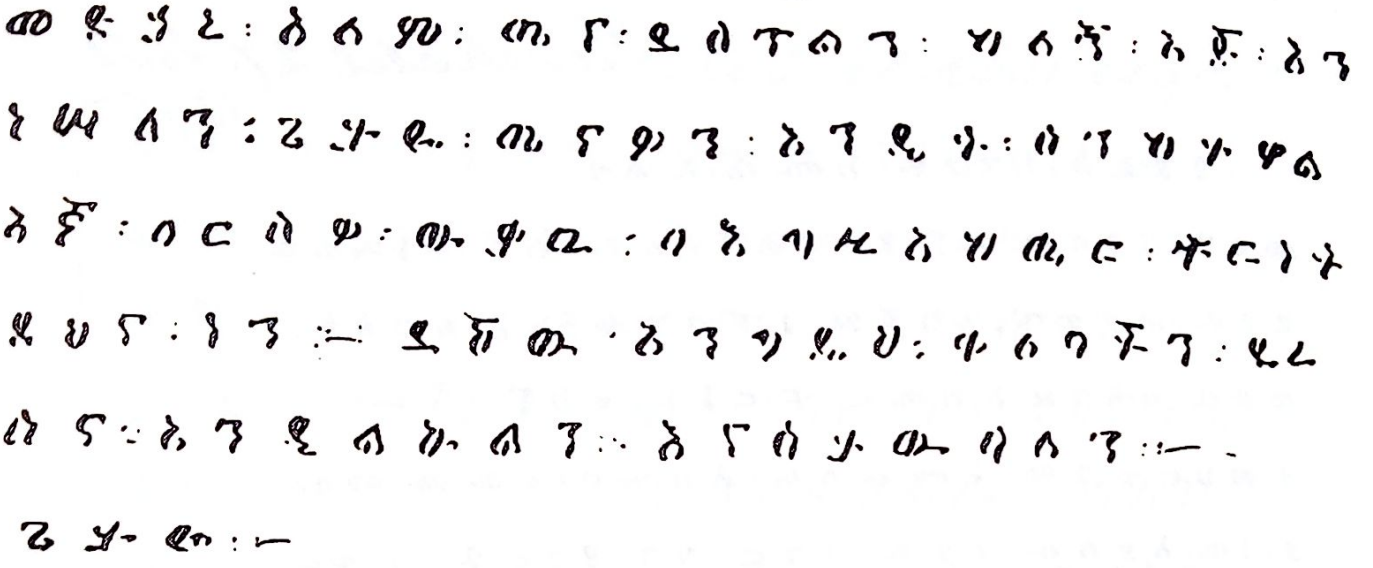
ይድረስ፡ ለጌታዬ፡ ለሙሲዬ፡ ኢልግ ።—

መድኃኔ፡ ዓለም፡ ጤና፡ይስጥልኝ፡ ዘነዲ፡ ስጅ፡ ስነሣሁ፡ ጌታዬ፡ ጤና ቁን፡ ስንደም፡ነን ዘሁቁ፡ አኒ፡ በርሰቃ፡ ውቃቢ፡ በስግዚ.ስ ክሜር፡ ኮርነት፡ ይህን፡ነኝ ።—

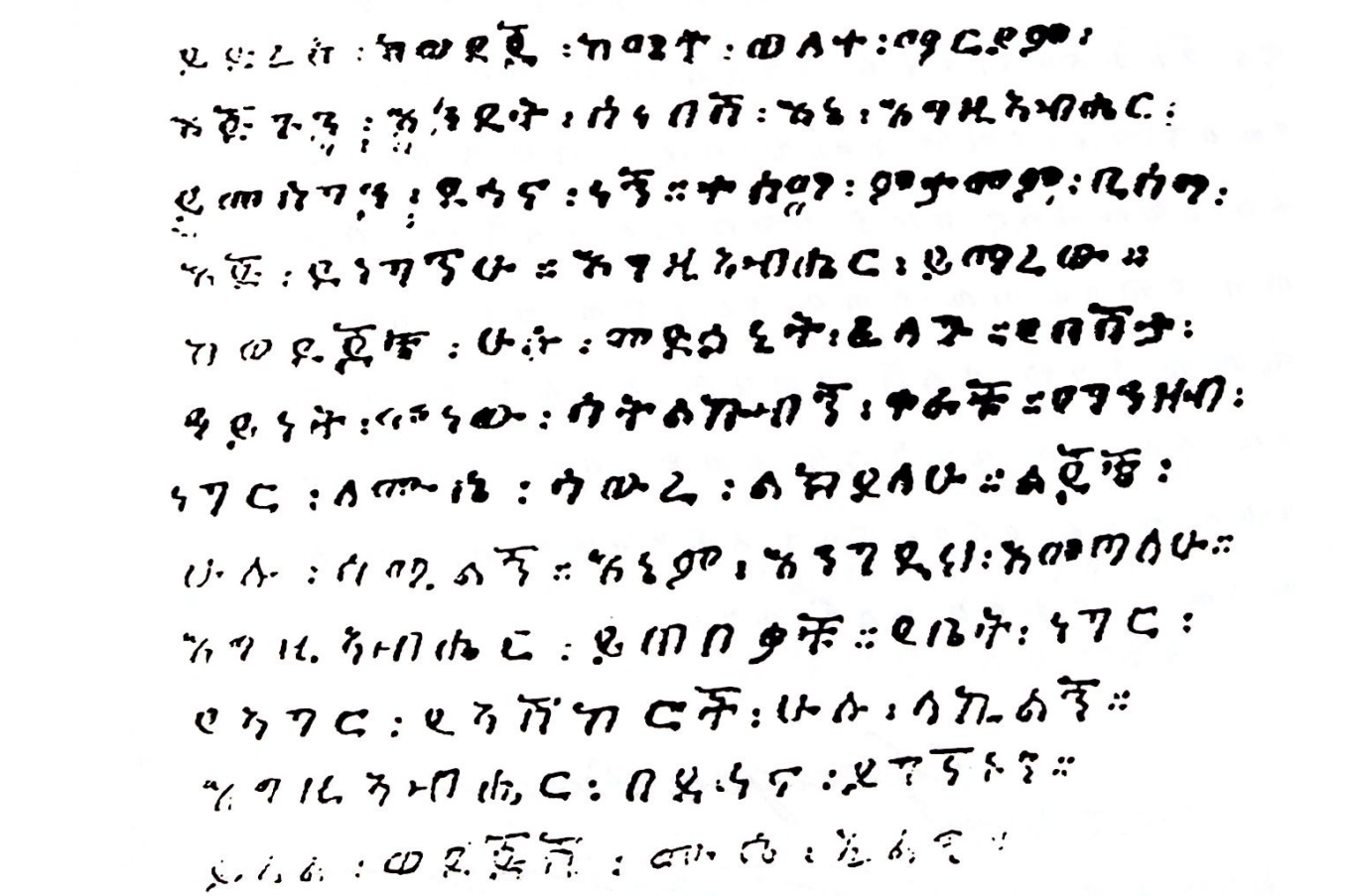
ትም ህርቱን ም፡ ስማራሳሁ፡ስስሁ ማሪው ም፡ማሰሬ ያ፡ነው፡ስያሰው ጌታዬ።። ነገር፡ግን ያገራኮንን.ወራ፡ ስንዲገኝ፡ ሁሉ፡ ኩሉ፡ ደሳኩሣ ኝ ጌታዬ፡ ሂሳ ም፡ ያሽ ው፡ስንግዲህ፡ወራ ኮን፡ያረሰን፡ቁሰግ ኮንን.ዕስ ሚነው፡በደህን፡በደህን፡ስጋሰሰ ኮ፡ስንዲል ክለን፡ሂ ሁን ።— ደግም፡ ዝን ክ፡ስየዚነበ፡ስቢ፡ ሪል፡ወዲ·ሁማ ሬ.ሪ.ሁ፡ሰሂድ፡የማጠሳው፡ባ ጣ፡በ፲ ጉራን ክ፡ሁበድረ፡ ኛፋ፡ንጉሥ ታሳሁ ን፡ ጌታዬ፡ስንደሰ ሙ ሁ፡ ሃበ፡ነው ።። የውስኮ፡ሱሬ፡ሂሳ ም፡ስሚ ሂ·በዚያ፡ሰ ም ን·ዕ፲ ንጉሥ ታውል ክሉ፡ንሰር ክዚያ፡በቁር·ሳ.ሳ የሰኝ ም።። ሲታ ጠ ሃ፡የ ም ሳውጣ ጭ፡ሰ ጠ ሁ፡ የሬ.ሁ ሮ ው።ግ ን፡ስ ሰ ቁ።። ጫ ማ ም፡ደግም፡ የ ሰ ኝ. ያ ጠ ባ ሁ· ስ ሳ ሬ ን ፡ስ ያ ጠ ማ፡ ስ ቢ፡ ስ ሰ ።። ሳ.ሳ ፡ቢ ን ኝ ል ኝ· ስ ወ ድ፡ነ በ ር ።— ጌ ታ ዬ· ደ ሁ ን፡ሁ ሳ.መ ሂ ሬ፡ የ ሽ ን ራ ኮ ሁ ን ፡ስ ኑ ደ ሃ ቁ ኝ ፡ ሃ ሰ ቃ ል ፡ ሃ ሁ፡ነ ው ።— የ ሉ ሳ ስ፡ ሃ ል ድ፡ ን ን ሣ ።—

Gougsa Dargue

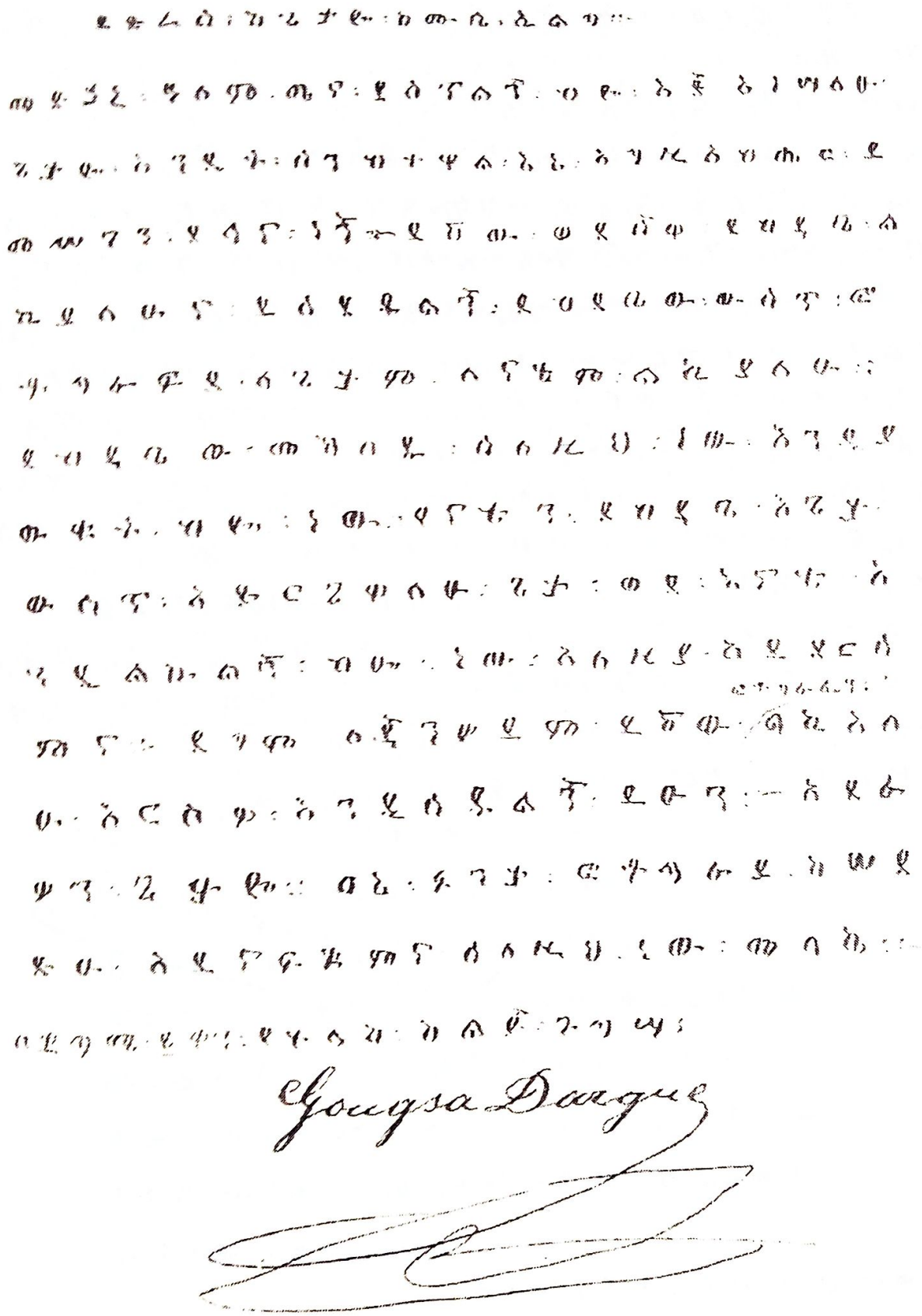
127. Afawarq and Qeṭāw to Alfred Ilg
"Neuchâtel 27 August 1895"



128. Alfred Ilg to Walatta Māryām
"Zurich ... September 1895"

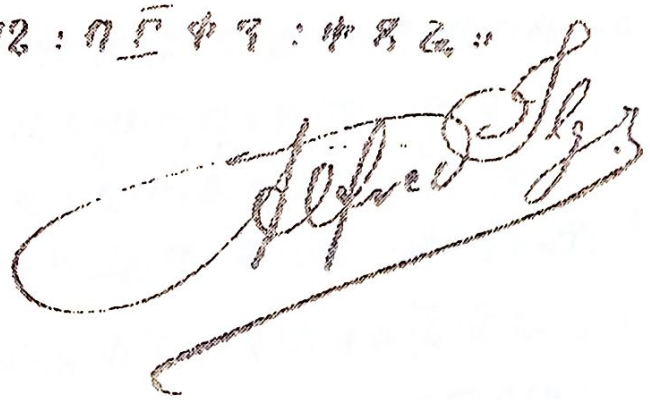


129. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 September "1895"



Gougsa Dargué

130. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Zurich 7 September "1895"



131. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 8 September 1895

Neuchâtel 8 Septembre '95

ይድረስ፡ከንቱየ፡ከገቴ፡ከሙሴ፡ኢሰላ፡

ንጉየ፡መድኃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጤና፡ይሰጥልኝ፡

ከየ፡፲፲ጊዜ፡እጅ፡አነሣለሁ።ንጉሤ፡እ

ጅጉን፡እንይሉ፡ለንጣጥሮ፡ነገ፡እላ

ዜአለጠርር፡ይመለገን፡ይህና፡ነኝ።። ።

ከሸዋ፡የመጣው፡ዳብዶቤም፡ዳረሰኝ፡

ነገር፡ላን፡እመቤቴ፡የላኩጣኝ፡ወራ፡

እርሰዎ፡ሰለሰሙት፡እን ይሠነ፡አነግረዎ፡

ከየ፡ነው።ሥለማ፡በጠርቱ፡ታጦ፡ተኝቷለ፡

አሉ።በሽታው፡ከይመረው፡፮ወር፡ሠነ፡አሉ።

ይጣዶቤ፡ወይቤታችን፡ቤ ሰላኩ፡በሽታውን፡

ለመጠየቅ፡ይላ፡ነው።።

ደላሞ፡በላንበት፡ከጥጻሬው፡ይጠዶቤ፡እመ

ቤቴ፡በ ይህና፡ተገላገሉ፡አሉ።እርሰዎ፡እሄንስ፡

ለይ ለሙም፡አይቀሩ፡በ ይላ፡መገላገላቸውን።

ደላሞ፡እርሰዎ፡ከመቤቱ፡ላይ፡ጠር ፡እዓር

ጣ፲ሰሉ፡ቤ ሉኝ፡ለመቤቴ፡ንጉ፡በይረጉኝ፡ጠ

ር ፡ወርቁ፡ያለገሉለኝ፡ከየ!ሰኳ!ነበር ።

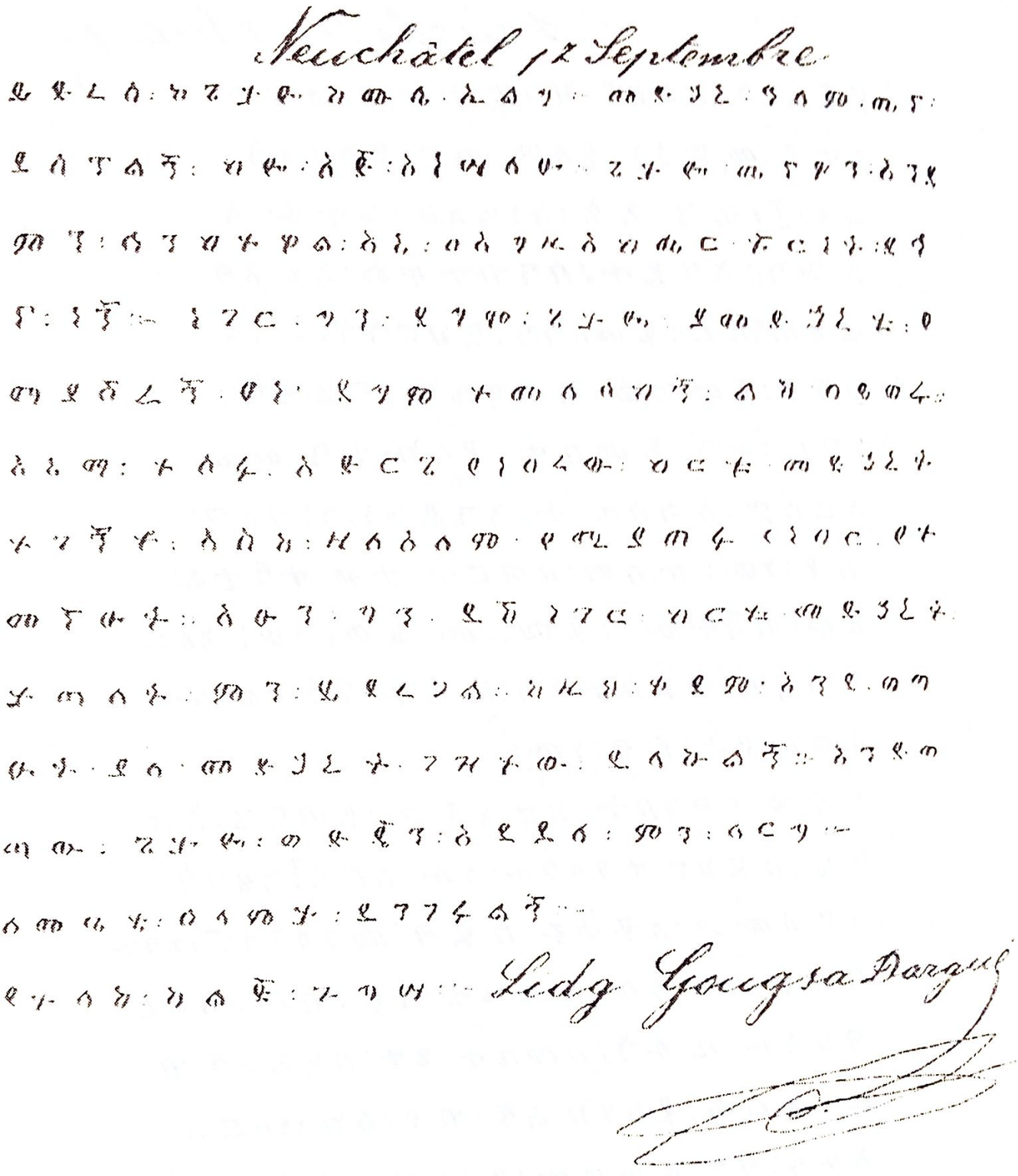
አሡን፡ላን፡እመቤቴ፡ገንዘጠ፡ወይት፡ይገኛለ፡

የለም፡ጠለው ፡ላኩጠኛና፡እርሰዎም፡ይወቁት፡

ጠየ!ነው፡የጸጉሌለዎ።

ይላለ፡ልጅዎ፡አሸከርዎ፡አፈጠርቀ

132. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 17 September "1895"



ተመራ፡ ዝሰዓው፡ ሰኑ ዝገ፡ ጀገዋደ፡ ተገ፡ የዚህገ፡ የደገደውገ፡ ነገር፡

አሳሰውታ ም፡ መሰሰችን፡ ሰሁገ፡ ሳገ፡ ሪሠገሰገ፡ የጀገዋደገ፡ ፍቃዱ

አገ ደርሳሰገናን፡ ሰሁጉ ም፡ ደገገ፡ ጀገሠደ፡ ደሰውታገ፡ ዝሰሳሃ

ታ፡ ለመ ቸመ ር፡ ሰናሰባሰገ፡ ሪታ ዱ፡ አርሰዉ ም፡ ደሰው።—

ሰዚህ፡ ም ሳሽ፡ ሪፍ ኑ ዝችን፡ ኣገ መ ደሰገ ።— ይሳ ም፡ ሳሁ

ሱ፡ ም፡ ነገር፡ አርሰሠ፡ ኣገ ደ መ ኴ።

133. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 23 September "1895"

septembre 23 Neuchâtel

ይ ኹ ረ ሰ፡ ዝ ጊ ታ ዱ፡ ዝ ሙ ሪ፡ ሌ ሳ ገ ። መ ቱ ታ ረ፡ ፃ ሳ ም፡ ጤ ና ፡

ደ ሰ ፕ ሰ ች፡ ዝ ዱ፡ ኦ ቹ፡ ኦ ነ ሣ ሰ ሁ፡ ጊ ታ ዱ፡ ኣ ገ ኢ ት፡ ሰ ገ ሃ

ሑ ቂ ል፡ ኦ ኒ፡ ኦ ገ ዚ ሌ ሳ ር፡ ደ መ ላ ሠ ገ ገ፡ ሂ ሳ ና ፡ ነ ች ፡—

ጊ ታ ዱ፡ ሳ ሰ፡ ደ ሳ ኡ ለ ች፡ ዝ ዱ፡ ደ ዝ ሄ ሰ፡ ለ ኢ ሓ ቃ፡ ነ ዘ ር፡

ኦ ለ ደ ረ ሰ ለ ቃ ም ፡ ም ነ ው፡ ኢ ሰ ኃ ሁ ገ፡ ሰ ና በ ሑ ዝ ች ፡—

ሰ ገ ራ ች ገ፡ ሰ ሠ፡ ኑ ሰ ፡ ሃ ደ ሱ ኑ፡ ሰ ገ ኟ ገ ፡ ደ ኘ ገ ፡ ያ ህ ለ፡ ሣ

ገ ፡ ፲ ሣ ገ ም ፡ ጣ ደ ር ፡ የ ሳ ም ፡ ሰ ደ ዘ ጣ ፡ ኦ ሁ ን ም ። ጊ ታ ዱ ፡

ኡ ደ ራ ሠ ገ ፡ ኣ ገ ክ ቀ ፡ ሣ ሱ ፡ ደ ሳ ኩ ለ ች ፣ ነ ገ ፡ መ ታ ለ ሄ

ሪ ን ፡ ኣ ገ ሩ ዘ ጣ ው ፡ ደ ሁ ን ፡ ክ ነ ገ ፡ ኣ ገ ሄ ደ ቀ ር ዝ ች ፡ ለ ደ ራ

ቀ ገ ፡ ጊ ታ ዱ ።—

Gougsa

የኢትዮጵያ ጥናት ም
INSTITUTE OF ETHIO
STUDIES
የውጭ ሀገር ቋንቋዎች
FOREIGN LANGUAG

134. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 28 September 1895

Neuchâtel 28 Septembre 95

ይ ድ ረ ስ፡ ከ ፅ ታ ች፡ ካ ባ ታ ች ን ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡ ኢ ሰ ላ፡ ፭ ታ ች ን ፡ መ ድ ኃ ኔ ፡ ዓ ለ ም ፡ በኤ ና ፡ ይ ሳ ጥ ለ ነ ፡ ሣ ለ ን ፡ ፲ ፲ ረ ዜ ፡ እ ድ ፡ እ ን ነ ሣ ለ ን ።፡ እ ን ዴ ት ፡ ሰ ን ሣ ሉ ዋ ሰ ፡ እ ኛ ፡ እ ላ ዜ አ ሣ ለ ኩ ር ፡ ይ መ ሰ ገ ን ፡ ድ ህ ና፡ ነ ነ ።፡ የ ዚ ሰ ን ፡ ረ ዜ ፡ እ ን ዴ ሁ ለ ያ የ ነ ፡ በ ድ ህ ና ፡ ገ ቡ ን ፡ ወ ይ ።፡ እ ኛ ም ፡ ከ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ካ ሉ ለ የ ን ፡ ወ ይ ይ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ በ ሰ ሙ ነ ፡ ሰ ረ ገ ላ ፡ ሉ ቀ ምጠ ን ፡ ከ ሉ ማ ው ን ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ እ የ ዞ ር ነ ፡ ለ የ ነ ፡ እ ድ ላ ፡ ይ ሰ ፡ አ ለ ነ ።፡ ለ ዚ ለ ም ፡ ወ ይ ሊ ፡ በ ፲ ሰ ለ ሉ ፡ እ ሯ ሉ ች ነ ን ፡ በ ሬ ሉ ን ፡ እ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ባ ሉ ነ ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ ሉ ነ ሰ ሉ ን ፡ በ ቹ ሉ ፡ ኔ ሻ ቴ ል ፡ ገ ባ ን ።፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ላ ን ፡ ከ ሉ መ ለ ሰ ነ ፡ ወ ይ ያ ም፡ በ ህ ል ማ ች ን ም ፡ ከ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ን ሯ ፡ ሴ ር ላ ፡ ከ ሉ ማ ፡ የ ም ን ዞ ር ፡ እ የ መ ሰ ለ ነ ፡ ሰ ን ቀ ድ ፡ እ ና ድ ሯ ለ ን ።፡ ይ ል ቋ ን ም ፡ ል ድ ፡ ጉ ላ ሃ ፡ ኡ ር ሰ ች ፡ ድ ቦ ች ፡ በ ህ ሰ ሙ ፡ የ ነ ከ ሉ ሉ ፡ መ ሰ ሉ ሉ ፡ ሲ ጠ ህ ፡ ሰ ዱ ረ ።፡ ሰ ሁ ን ም ፡ ድ ን ያ ጠ ው ፡ ሰ ል በ ረ ዱ ለ ሉ ።፡ ኦ ፌ ወ ር ቅ ፡ ላ ን ፡ ከ ድ ል ድ ይ ፡ ላ ይ ፡ የ ወ ደ ቀ ፡ መ ሰ ሉ ሉ ፡ ሲ ባ ፣ ኦ ቷ ረ ።፡ ቅ ጣ ሙ ም ፡ ያ ፡ ፌ ረ ሰ ኛ ፡ በ ወ ደ ቀ በ ሉ ፡ የ ሉ

ካክባለልሁ፡አዊመሰለው፡አንዱበቴ፡ሰጓክሽ፡
አቀር፡መሰሎት፡አድላ፡ይጣላጠ፡መጠቱ፡ነበር።

አመቤቱን፡መድኃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠናች፡ይሰጥል
ን፡ብሰን፡ጊዜ፡አድ፡አንነሣሰን።ብዙ፡ነገር፡
ለመቤቱ፡አለመጸጉችን፡በቀይም፡ሰታ፡በቱሌፎ
ናው፡ቀዱዱ፡መልክ፡ለመልክ፡ከሉያ የነ፡ብሰን፡
ነው።

ይሳሉ፡ልጅ ም፡ልድ፡ጉጣሠ። ልድ፡ቀጠው።

አዉመርቅ።

135. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 9 October 1895

Neuchâtel 9 octobre 1895

ይድረስ።

ከጌታዩ፡ካባቴ፡ከሙሴ፡ሲሐጣ፡መድሃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠና፡
ይስጥልኝ፡ዘይ፤ ፲፭ ጊዜ፡እጅ፡አነሣለሁ።ጌታዩ፡እ
ንይሑ፡ስንጣጥሞዋል፡እኔ፡እጣዚአስጠለከር፡ይመስገን፡
ድህና፡ነኝ፡ከሸዋ፡የመጣውን፡ዱጣዱቤ፡የስዱዱሐነ፡
ዱስ፡አነ፡ይረስነ። ይጣም፡እርስዎ፡ወይ፟ንጌሠይ፡የሳ
ኩሐኝ፡የይጣዱቤየ፡ምሳሽ፡እሄው፡ዱረስኝ።እርሰ
ዎን፡አመሰግናለሁ። እርስዎ፡ጭሎ፡ቢልኩሐኝ፡ነው፡
ጭሎ፡ሸዋ፡ይርሰዎ፡ምሳኑ፡የመጣልኝ።
አሁንም፡እሄው፡ምሳኑን፡ሳ፟ንጌሠይ፡ጽፌለጭዎሰሁና፡
ጭሎ፡እንይዲስይልኝ፡ጌታዩ። አሁን፡ጠጭኩሐ፡ነው፡
በፈረንሳዊ፡አሰመፀፈው።እንዳይውስጩኝ።
እመቤቱን፡መድሃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠና፡ይስጥልኝ፡ዘይ፡
፲፭ ጊዜ፡እጅ፡አነሣለሁ።

ልጅዎ፡አሽከርዎ፡ሰዉወርቁ።

136. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Walatta Māryām "Neuchâtel" 10 October "1895"

ይ ጽ ረ ለ ፡ ከ መ ሴ ቱ ፡ ከ ኖ ቱ ፡ ከ ወ ይ ዘ ቧ ፡ ጠ ራ ፡ ማ ር ያ ም ። ። ከ መ ሴ ቱ ፡ ኦ ኖ ቱ ፡ ኦ ሮ ጉ ን ፡ ሽ ዙ ው ን ፡ ኦ ን ይ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ሳ ዩ ፡ ፲ ፲ ፭ ዘ ፡ ኦ ሮ ፡ ኦ ነ ሠ ላ ሁ ። ። ራ ሄ ቾ ለ ፡ ኦ ር ሰ ም ሰ ፡ ጠ ሥ ሹ ሁ ን ፡ ኦ ን ቧ ም ን ፡ ና ሹ ሁ ። ። ሑ ለ ማ ለ ፡ ኦ ን ይ ሉ ፡ ነ ው ፡ በ ን ፡ ኦ ራ ሠ ነ ም ን ፡ ኦ ሁ ን ፡ በ ሽ ዙ ው ፡ ኦ ለ መ ጻ ፌ ፡ ች ሀ ሳ ፡ ፭ ዘ ፡ ሁ ና ሽ ፡ ነ ው ። ። ሳ ሁ ሉ ፡ ሰ ቤ ቱ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ ይ ን ገ ሯ ለ ኝ ፡ ኦ መ ሴ ቱ ። ።

ከ ዛ ሬ ፡ በ ፌ ት ፡ የ ሳ ክ ሁ በ ዎ ፡ ቦ ኔ ፡ በ ኩ ራ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ቢ ለ ሙ ፡ ኦ ይ ሰ ቡ በ ሉ ፡ ጠ የ ፡ የ ሳ ክ ሁ በ ዎ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ለ ኛ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ራ ኩ ፡ ነ በ ር ። ። ኛ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ኦ ሁ ን ፡ ም ሳ ሹ ን ፡ ሳ ኩ ጠ ኝ ፡ ኦ ን ዲ ራ ሁ ዎ ፡ የ ጠ ሳ ት ፡ መ ፌ ፡ ሁ ኖ ፡ ሉ ገ ኛ ፡ ም ን ም ፡ የ ለ ጠ ኝ ፡ ይ ለ ፡ ይ በ ራ ዎ ፡ ኦ መ ሴ ቱ ።

ዮ ጽ ረ ለ ፡ ከ ቱ ፡ ከ ወ ኳ ኟ ፡ ከ በ ሳ ይ ነ ሽ ፡ ኦ ቱ ፡ ኦ ጅ ጉ ን ፡ ኦ ጅ ጉ ን ፡ ኦ ን ይ ሉ ፡ ነ ሽ ፡ ኦ ኔ ፡ ባ ን ች ፡ ው ቃ ቢ ፡ በ ክ ር ስ ጭ ስ ፡ ች ር ነ ት ፡ ይ ሂ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ፡ ች ኮ ሳ ፡ ሁ ኖ ፡ ባ ይ ሴ ው ፡ ለ ሐ ፃ ጥ ሁ ራ ሽ ም ና ፡ ለ ት ዋ ጭ ጣ ኝ ። ። ሳ ሁ ሉ ም ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ ን ገ ሪ ራ ኝ ። ። ኦ ን ች ም ፡ ቾ ሉ ፡ ቶ ሉ ፡ ሳ ኪ ጣ ኝ ። ። በ መ ለ ከ ሬ ም ፡ በ ፲ ቀ ን ፡ ተ ጻ ሬ ። ።

ለ ሬ ወ ር ቂ ። ።

137. Gugsâ, Qeṭâw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 21 October 1895

Neuchâtel 21 Octobre 1895.

ይቁረ ስ፡ ለገጽ ሃ-ች፡ ነ፡ ካ ባ ታ-ች ነ፡ ለ ሙ-ሲ፡ ኢ ሬ ላ ነ። ሙ ቁ ፃ

ረ፡ ዓ ለ ም፡ ሙ ና፡ ሂ ስ ጥ ል ን፡ ለ ለ ን፡ ለ ች፡ ለ ን ነ ሠ ለ ን፡ ገ ሃ ሩ፡

ጠ ና ወ ን፡ ለ ን ቂ ም ን፡ ለ ን ለ ሃ-ዋ ል፡ ለ ች፡ ለ ነ ለ ስ ሀ ሉ ር፡

ይ ለ ወ ሠ ን ን፡ ሂ ን ነ፡ ነ ን። ገ ሃ ሩ፡ ከ ለ ሀ፡ ሂ ን ራ ች ነ ን፡ ነ ን ር፡

ለ ለ ለ-፡ ወ ራ፡ ለ ይ ለ ለ ነ ፡ ለ ች ሃ፡ ሃ-ሰ ን ቁ ና ል። ለ ር ነ ለ-ን፡

ለ ን ሂ፡ ለ ነ ሂ ና ለ-ዋ ለ-፡ ለ ር ለ ሠ፡ ወ ራ ለ-ን፡ ሀ-ራ፡ ለ ፊ ለ

አ ለ ነ ም። ለ ሀ-ን ም፡ ይ ሀ-ራ ን ም፡ ነ ን ር፡ መ ፕ ሃ-ን፡ ነ ር

ለ ዎ፡ ን ር፡ ለ መ ነ ጋ ን ር፡ ለ ን ወ ሂ ለ ን ና፡ ወ ቂ ር ለ ሠ፡ ለ ሀ-

ን፡ ለ ን ቁ ን መ ለ ን፡ ፒ ፍ ቁ ቂ ለ ነ። ለ ለ ራ፡ ወ ይ ር ለ ሠ፡ መ ነ ነ

ኑ ረ ሉ ን ኗ፡ ነ በ ር፡ ሰ ኑ ል ኡ ለ ለ ች፡ ም ነ ው፡ ሀ ለ ው፡ ፒ ቁ በ-

ና ል ፡ ለ ለ ን ፡ ረ ር ሃ ን ፡ ቁ ረ ን ። ለ ሀ-ን ም ፡ ለ ቂ ራ ፡ ጊ ኑ ች ን ፡

ሳ ሉ ፡፡ ም ለ ሹ ን ፡ ፒ ለ ለ-ሃ-፡ ነ ፡ ለ ን ቁ ነ መ ጠ ።—

ይ ለ ራ ፡ ለ ቷ ች ቃ ፡ ጉ ነ ሠ ፡ ቅ ለ ወ-፡ ለ ረ ወ ር ሳ ።

138. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 November 1895

Neuchâtel 6 Novembre 1895

ጌታ ዮ፡መ ድኃኔ፡ዓለም፡ጠ ና፡ይለጥፉኝ፡ከ የ፡፲፭ ጊዜ፡እጅ፡
እነ ዛ ለ ሁ ፡፡ጌ ታ ዮ ፡እን ዴት ፡ለን ጠ ሮ ዋ ፡እኔ ፡እጣ ዚ አ ለ
ለኬ ር ፡ይ መ ለ ን ን ፡ይ ህ ና ፡ነ ች ፡፡
ጌ ታ ዮ ፡በ ቀ ይ ም ፡ሰ ት ፡ሰ በ ሳ ይ ነ ሽ ፡ ፻ ከ ር ፡100 ከ ር ፡ይ ለ
ጡ ሉ ኝ ፡ከ የ ዎ ፡እ ሽ ፡ከ ለ ሙ ኝ ፡፡ነ በ ር ና ፡አ ሁ ን ም ፡አ ይ ራ ፡
ጌ ታ ዮ ፡እ ን ዳ ይ ረ ሱ ፡ይ ሁ ን ፡፡ ለ ሷ ም ፡እ ሪ ው ፡ ፻ ከ ር ፡
ጌ ታ ፡ከ ጣ ሪ ያ ር ጉ ኝ ፡ለመ ጥ ራ ፡ተ ቀ በ ይ ፡ከ የ ፡ጽ ሕ ሳ ታ ለ ሁ ና ፡
እ ር ሳ ዎ ም ፡አ ይ ራ ፡ከ ዚ አ ው ፡እን ጂ ተ ቀ በ ለ ፡ለ ድ ር ግ ው ፡
ይ ላ ኩ ለ ኝ ፡፡
ለ መ ቤ ቴ ፡መ ድኃ ኔ ፡ዓ ለ ም ፡ጠ ና ፡ይለጥ ፉ ኝ ፡ከ የ ፡፲፭ ጊዜ ፡
እ ጅ ፡እ ነ ዛ ለ ሁ ፡፡ ለ ጅ ፡ጉ ላ ዘ ም ፡እን ዲ ሁ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ይ ነ ሣ ለ ፡፡

ይ ላ ለ ፡ለ ጁ ም ፡አ ክ ብ ር ም ፡አ ቶ ወ ር ቅ ፡ Afewerk

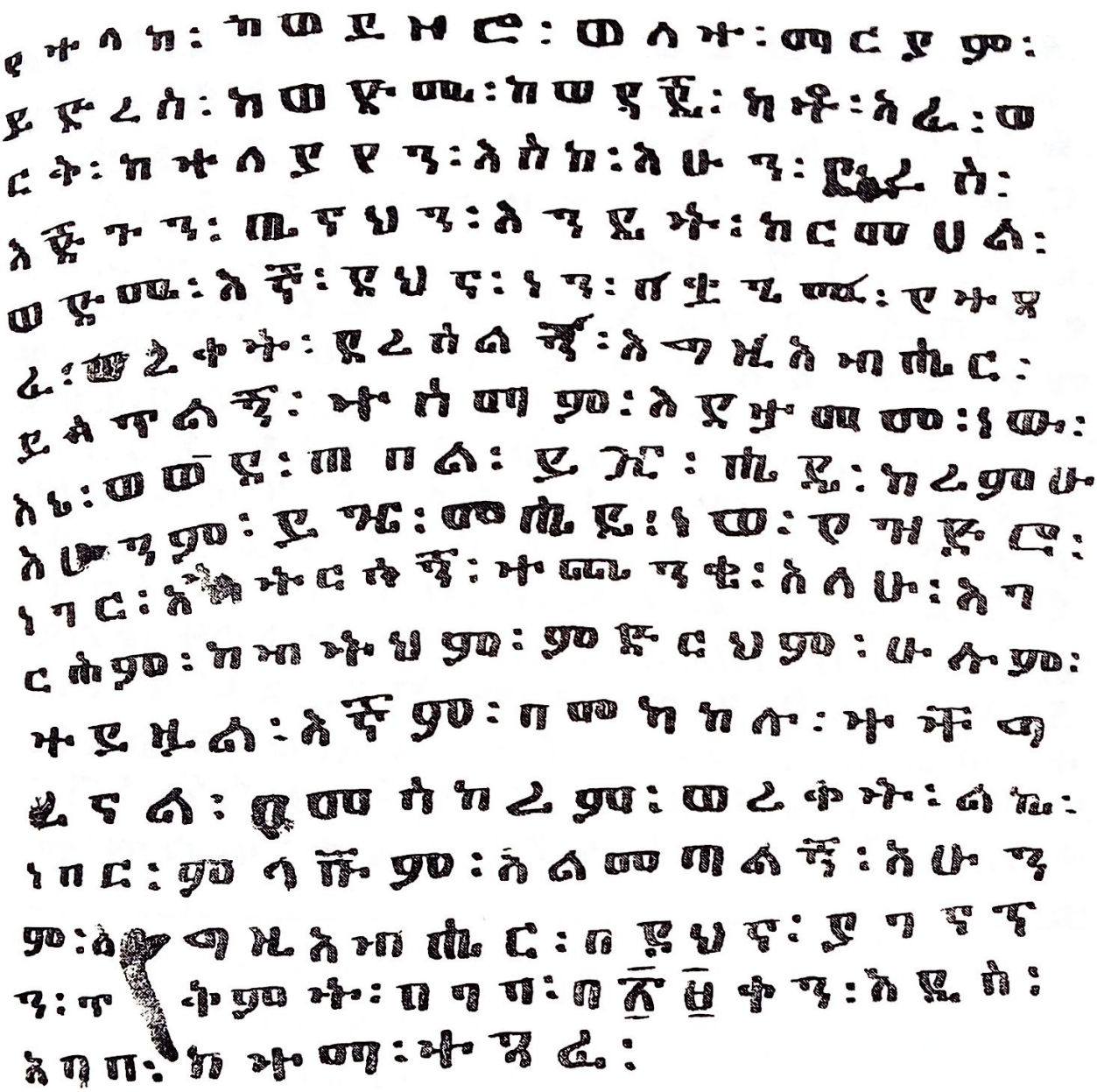
139. Yosēf Neguśē to Gugsā Dārgē
Warraylu 6 November 1895

ፀቱላከ፡ከገራዝጣችኍ፡ዮሴፍ፡ይድረሱ፡
ከሐጅ፡ጉግሣ፡ከልጅ፡ቅጣው፡ወነዩጣ
ቺ፡አነዪቱ፡ከር ጣችኂ፡ኤሉ፡አገዚአብ
ሔር፡ይመሰገነ፡ሂሩና፡ነኝ።፡ደህጣቢይኍ
ሁ፡ከራቀኝ፡ብጹ፡ቅነ፡ሆነኝ፡ጸመነ፡ጥቃ
ት፡ተገኝ·ለኝ፡አገዚአብሔር፡ለሕይወቱ፡
ሥጋ፡ለመገናኘት፡ደህታነ፡በጥቅምት፡
በ፳፱ ፲ ቀነ፡በሸ፡ተ ፲ ፬ ፭ ፲ አመተ፡ምህ
ሐረቱ፡በወረይሉ፡ከተጣ፡ተጻፈ።

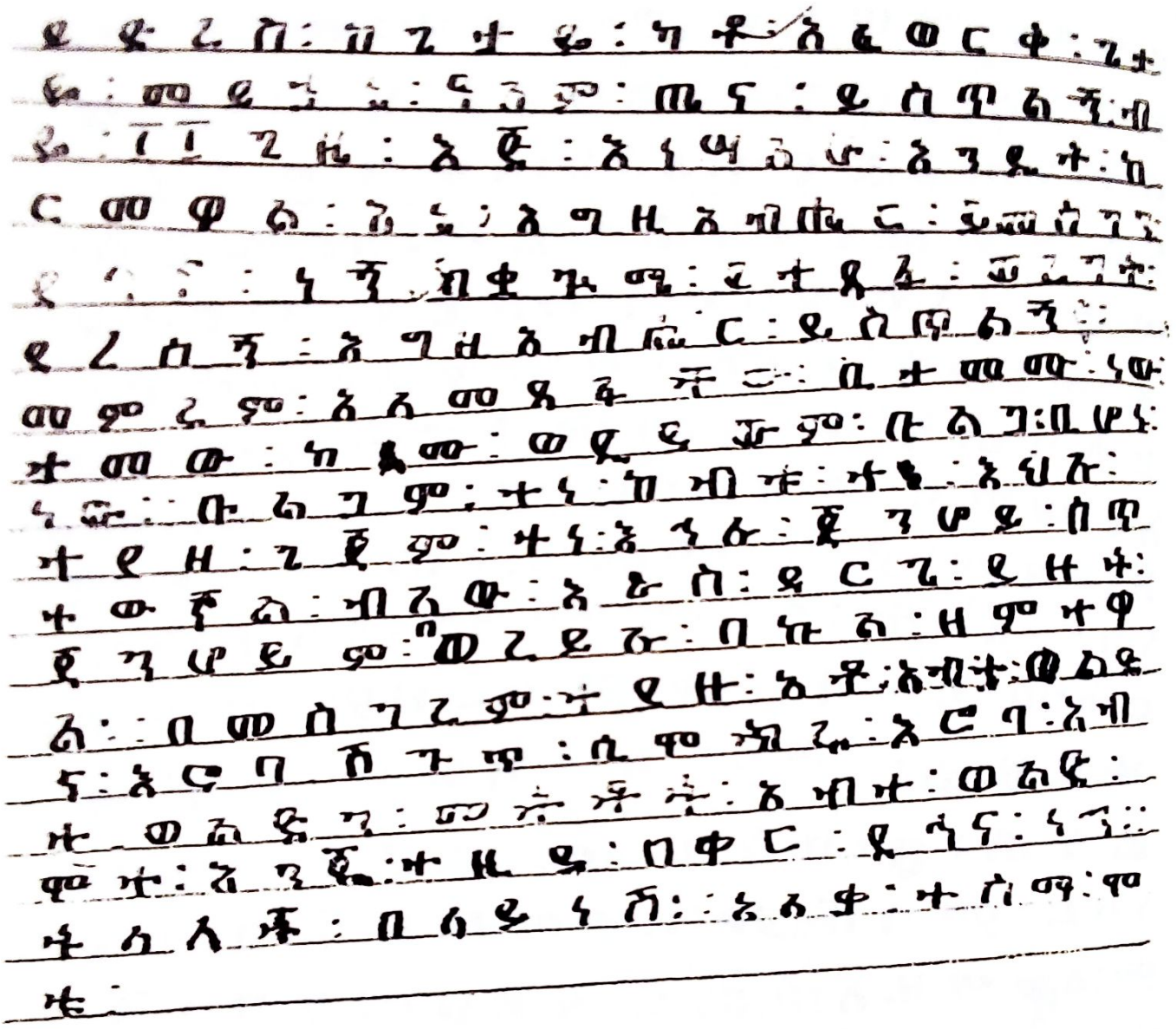
140. Walda Gabre^{c}ēl to Gugsā and Qeṭāw
Warraylu 7 November 1895

ፀቱላከ፡ከ፬ቂረ፡መልጹ፡ግህሌል፡ይድረ
ሶ፡ከልጅ፡ጉጓሣ፡ከልጅ·ቀጣው፡ለጅ
ጉግ፡እግዢቱ፡ሰጓህታችኂል፡አነ፡ለ፬
ዚለህሐር፡ይመሠግጓ፡ይህን፡ነኝ።
ጂህጓነታችሁግም፡ሰምቼ፡ይሰ፡ህሉ
ኍል።ልናጓት፡ጓግ፡ወረቅት፡ለላ ከችሁህ
ኽም።ለሁግም፡ኗ፬ዚለህሐር፡ለቱ
ርነቱ፡ለጂህን፡ለመጓናኘት፡ደህቃግ።
ለጥቅምቱ፡በ፭ኂቅግ፡ለወረይሉ፡ከተ
ጣ፡ተጻፈ።

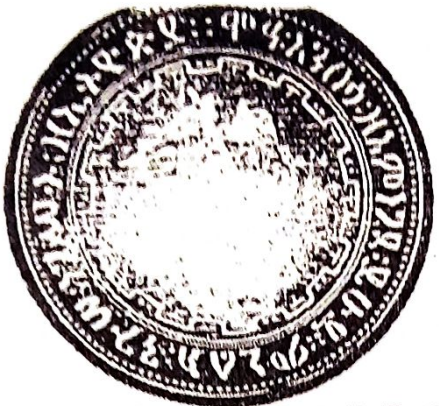
141. Walatta Māryām to Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus
Addis Ababā 8 November "1895"



142. Balāynaš to Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus
"Addis Ababā ... November 1895"



143. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
... ... November 1895



144. Menilek II's Monetary Proclamation
Entoṭṭo 12 January 1896

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

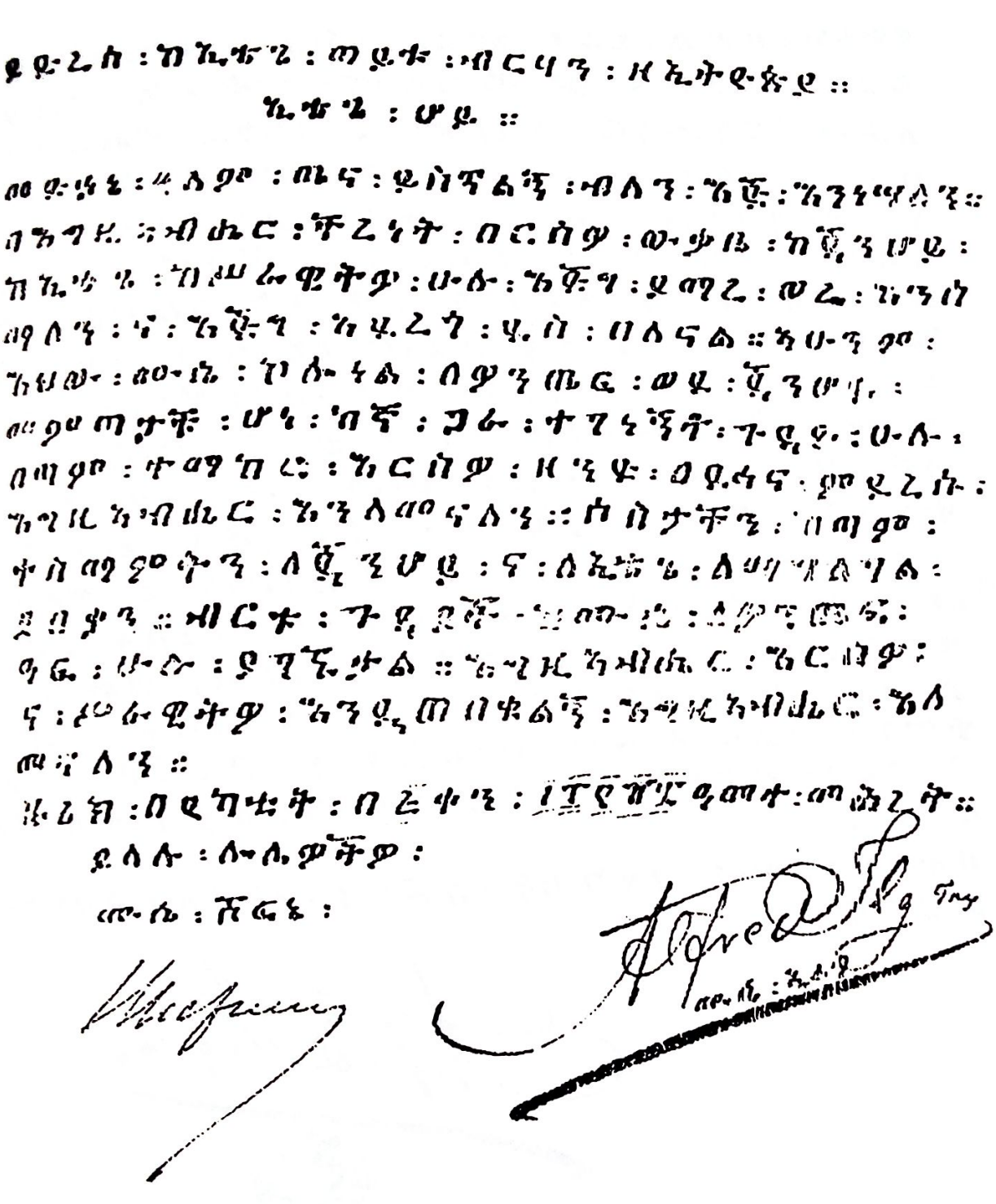
145. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Menilek II
Zurich 12 February 1896

ቀድሬስ ፡ ከክቡር ፡ ወለሙል ፡ ዲግማዊ ፡ ምኒልክ ፡ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ ።

ክፍል ሰላም ።

ከዚህ ፡ ተዲም ፡ ይ ጌዚ ፡ ክርሙ ፡ ስልክ ፡ ሌክኑብዎ ፡ ነበርኑ ።
ለርስዎ ፡ ና ፡ ስ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ክርሙ ፡ክርቱ ፡ ጉይ ይ ፡ ምደዘችኑ ፡
በዚህ ፡ በስልክ ፡ ታል ፡ ኩንዲ ግኙ ፡ ተስቅ ፡ አለን ፡ ኩስክ ፡
ዘረ ፡ ሁረስ ፡ ኩኖ ፡ ሁለት ፡ ቢቻ ፡ ሆነን ፡ ዘረ ፡ ከመሙሴ ፡ ክለሙኑል ፡
ለምን ዘቢዘ ፡ ያተኖ ፡ ክበርቱ ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወሃ ጅ ፡ ዲክንሆይ ፡
ዲታመኑ ፡ ል ል ፡ በሰላ ግኙ ታችን ፡ ኩጅ ፡ አሃረጎ ፡ ፊ ስ ፡ ዘለ ሩናል ።
ኩኖ ፡ ስ ስታችን ፡ ክ ሁ ፡ ጌዚ ፡ ተ ግኑ ችን ፡ ጉሃይ ፡ ሁል ፡
በ ሰ ታም ፡ ተ ሰላ ክ ረ ኑ ፡ ወሙ ሴ ፡ ለዎ ን ጠ ፍ ፡ ወ ኢ ፡ ክ ንሆ ይ ፡
ረ ኖ ን ፡ ክ ለ ፡ ታ ሃ ዲ ፡ ወ ሂ ፍ ን ። ኩኖ ፡ ግ ና ፡ ሙ ያ ቸ ኒ ፡
አ ድ ግ ፡ ደ ባ ዘ ኑ ል ፡ ከ ክ ንሆ ይ ፡ ተ ሉ ፡ ተ ሉ ፡ ለ ታ ግ ኑ ች ፡
ኢ ን ወ ሃ ፍ ፡ ኑ በ ር ኑ ፡ ኑ ግ ር ፡ ላ ኑ ፡ ዘ ዚህ ፡ አ ግ ር ፡ ዲ ክ ንሆ ይ ፡
ጉ ሃ ይ ፡ ለ ታ ል ፈ ጨ ረ ስ ፡ በ ቦ ሊ ቲ ካ ፡ ግ ዲ ይ ፡ ለ ታ ጠ ን ቀ ቅ ፡ ና ፡
በ ለ ታ ታ ፡ ለ ታ ረ ሂ ት ፡ ክ ዚህ ፡ ም ቅ ለ ት ፡ ግ ፍ ፡ ሆ ኑ ለ ኒ ። በ ሂ ለ
ፍ ለ ቤ ፡ ኩ ለ ፡ ታ ጽ ሕ ኞ ች ን ፡ ለ ሙ ሴ ፡ ለ ዎ ን ጠ ፍ ፡ ኩ ክ ንሆ ይ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡
ሁ ግ ኑ ኛ ች ፡ ሂ ኑ ግ ር ዋ ል ፡ ክ ለ ን ፡ ኑ ሙ ። ፩ ኑ ግ ር ፡ ቢ ቻ ፡ በ ጣ ታ ፡
ኩኑ ለ ለ ሙ ኑ ሃ ለ ን ። የ ሚ ኑ መ ጣ ሙ ን ፡ ክ ር ቱ ፡ ኩ ታ ፡ ፪ ሺህ ፡ ግ ለ ል ፡
የ ሚ ኩ ስ ፈ ል ኑ ፡ ኩ ታ ፡ ወ ጪ ፡ ክ ንሆ ይ ፡ ለ ሰ ባ ለ ጣ ች ፡ በ ኩ ሙ ሰ ፡
በ ኩ ል ፡ ካ ል ሆ ኑ ፡ ሌ ላ ፡ መ ን ግ ሂ ፡ ኩ ና ግ ኙ ታ ም ። ስ ለ ዚህ ፡ ኩ ሂ ራ ሃ ን ፡
ወ ሂ ፡ ኩ ሙ ሰ ፡ ወ ር ይ ፡ ቂ ኑ በ ረ ፡ ሥ ራ ቂ ት ፡ ወ ሂ ፡ ሽ ዋ ፡ ተ ለ ፀ ለ ሰ ፡
ኩ ን ሂ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ፌ ጥ ን ፡ ክ ለ ሙ ፡ ወ ሂ ፡ ኩ ሙ ሰ ፡ ኩ ን ሂ ኣ ማ ሉ ስ ፡ ኩ ዚህ ፡
ኩ ን ሂ ቀ ፀ ፀ ጥ ፡ ቻ ለ ሙ ፡ ቸ ለ ሙ ፡ ኩ ዘ ዙ ት ። ጉ ን ኪ ን ፡ ሌ ኖ ፡ በ ዚህ ፡
በ ኩ ል ፡ ቂ ለ ኣ ለ ሰ ጣ ሙ ን ፡ ለ ባ ር ፡ ለ ታ ለ ለ ስ ፡ ኩ ለ ፡ ታ መ ፈ በ ር ፡
ሃ ለ ፌ ለ ን ል ። ዘ ረ ፡ ኩ ሙ ሰ ፡ ለ ይ ፡ በ ሽ ታ ፡ ቂ ለ ም ፡ ለ ን ቅ ፡ ሃ ን ፀ ፡
ፀ ፍ ለ ት በ ታ ል ። ለ ሙ ሴ ፡ ሽ ፍ ኑ ፡ ኩ ሙ ሰ ፡ ለ ይ ፡ ለ ማ ች ፡ ከ ራ ለ ፡

146. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 12 February 1896



147. Alfred Ilg to Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē
Zurich 12 February 1896

ፀጐላክ ፣ ከወሡሴ ፣ ኢልግ ፣ ያድሬሰ ፣ ከክቡር ፣ ጌታዊ ፣ ከራስ ፣ ጴርጌ ፣ መዐድቤ ፣ ዓለም ፣ ጤና ፣ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ዘየ ፡ ኽኹ ፣ ኽነሣ ለሡ ፡ ኈዮ ጉን ፡ ኽንዲት ፡ ሰፋበጵ ፡ ኽኔ ፡ በኽግዚኣብሔር ፣ የጠሳንን ፡ ዘርስዎ ፡ መታሴ ፡ ሂኝ ። በኽግዚኣብሔር ፡ ዮረኔት ፡ በኽንሆይ ፣ ና ፡ በርስዎ ፡ ሙታሴ ፡ ኽህሡ ፣ የመረኔት ፡ ነገር ለኢትዮጵያ ፡ ኽኹ ፡ የሚጠቅም ፡ ሆኔ ። ዐኽንሆይ ፣ የሳና ፡ ወረ ፡ ሡለ ፡ ዝሰማ ፡ ኽኹ ፣ ትዪረት ፡ የስ ፡ ዝለጕሱ ። ኽኝ ፡ ከዚህ ፣ ኣነር ፡ ያለት ፡ የኹንሆይ ፣ ና ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወየኽቹ ሡለ ፡ ኽንየ ፡ ኣከማየኾን ፣ ኽንረዳለኝ ። ዕኹንሆይ ፣ ለዘርየ ኽዘመ ፡ የታክ ፡ ዐ ምስክብ ፡ ን ጉደሡ ፣ ወየ ኹ ፡ ወሬሴ ፡ ኮሡኔ ፡ ለምጽፍሌ ፡ ወየ ፡ ኹንሆይ ፡ ለብርኹ ፡ ዝርኹ ፡ ጉየኔ ፡ ምሳ ፡ ቀልና ፡ ኣባንክ ፡ ጌታዊ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ቻለ ፡ ቻለ ፡ ወየ ፡ ኹንዘይ ፡ ኦሮ ዝሳ ፡ ጸየሳና ፡ ኽንየሄሬ ፡ ሰው ፡ ና ፡ መልካም መልክ ያሠ ፡ ዘመረ ፡ ጽኔ ሀሠ ርሠ ፡ ፌኖን ፡ ዝለሡ ፡ ሰየ የሡኞ ። ጌታዊ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ኣዲ ራይን ። ጠሡሴ ፡ ለምንጠፍ ፡ ከመሡሴ ፡ ሽፍኔ ፣ ና ፣ ከኔ ፣ ጋራ ፣ ተገናኙት ፡ ኣኹ ፣ ዘርኹ ፡ ጉየኔ ፡ ቀጣከርሠ ቀልና ፡ ቻለ ፡ ቻለ ፡ ከኹንሆይ ፡ ጋ ፡ ሰሠዋኹ ፡ ሁሡ ፡ ጭመርሡ ፡ ዘየርስ ፡ ኽንወየለንና ፡ ኣየራይን ፡ ቻለ ፡ ቶለ ሰየኺት ።

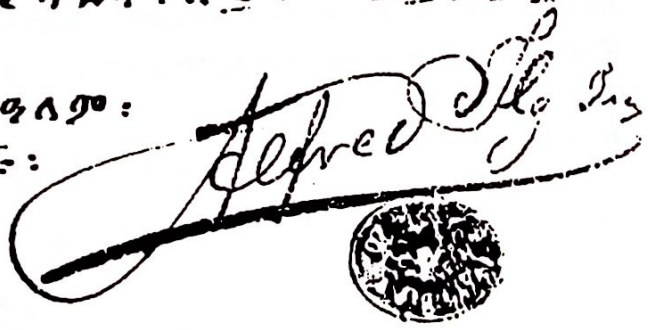
በሥሰክ ፡ ኸላማ ፡ ሰየካቲት ፡ በኧሡ ፡ ፲፰፻፺፮ ዓ/ም ፡ ያመሐረት ።

148. Alfred Ilg to Walda Giyorgis Abboyyē
Zurich 12 February 1896

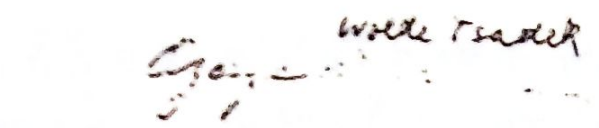
የተሳከ ፡ ከመ ፡ ኤለላ ፡ ቂድሪስ ፡ ከክቡር ፡ ወሂኗ ፡ ከራስ ፡ ወልዲ ፡ ሄዊርሚስ ፡ መሆኗኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ጢና ፡ ይስግልኝ ፡ ብሃ ፡ ከሹ ፡ ኤኔሳለሁ ፡ እሹግኝ ፡ እንዲት ፡ ስነበብ ፡ ኔኔ ፡ ከሳዚን ብልር ፡ ይመስገን ፡ ሃላና ፡ ቴሻ ፡ ወዲ ፡ ኦሙሳ ፡ ዘወዐቱ ፡ ና ፡ ከሃሉኝ ፡ ሄል ፡ እረኝችሁ ፡ ሲሉ ፡ ብነዐ ፡ ኤሽላ ፡ እሂሳ ፡ ሰ ፡ ብ ፡ ሠፀሩኝል ፡ እንኳን ፡ ቀናም ፡ ጌታዮ ። ሃሳዐ ፡ ቂሽ ፡ ሳዘ ፡ ወረ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ዲሳና ፡ ኔሙ ። ኤርሰቹ ፡ ሥዲዊታቹ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ዲሳና ፡ ኔሙ ፡ ወሳታቹ ፡ ኤሽግ ፡ ዲኔገተ ፡ ከሁኔ ፡ ጌታዮ ፡ እህሙ ፡ መሉ ፡ ከሉኔል ፡ ከኔ ፡ ና ፡ ነመሉኔ ፡ ሽፈኔ ፡ ጋሉ ፡ ቂዬሳዋ ፡ ተግኔኛች ፡ ገሃዩ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ በጣም ፡ ሳብዝርሙ ፡ ችሉ ፡ ቻሉ ፡ ወዲ ፡ ሺ ፡ ነሆዩ ፡ ለምዲጊስ ፡ መኖሉዋልና ፡ ከዊራዎች ፡ ጌታዮ ፡ በሃሳና ፡ ዲሳና ፡ ሸኔሹ ፡ ገብሎ ፡ ና ፡ ሰሙ ፡ ኤዊረጎ ፡ ፈጥኚ ፡ ብሉ ፡ ሰዊዲሙት ። ፩ ሳንኔ ፡ ኤንኪ ፡ እንዲይቆይ ፡ ጉዲያ ፡ ኤሹግ ፡ ብርሃ ፡ ኔሙና ፡ ፅሽንሆዩ ፡ ና ፡ ፅኢትዮጵያ ፡ ኔሽላ ፡ የወኢጠነገው ፡ ነው ። ከዊራዎች ፡ ጌታዮ ፡ ኤዊራዎች ።

በዙፊክ ፡ ከሉጣ ፡ በየከሉት ፡ በ፫ ሳን ፡ ፲፫ የ፲፱ ፫ ፋወዐት ፡ ወወሕረት ።

ወሙሴ ፡ ሽፍኔ ፡ መዲሳኔ ፡ ዓለም ፡ ጢና ፡ ይስግልኝ ፡ ብዮ ፡ ኤሹ ፡ ኤነሳለሁ ፡ ያሳሉ ።



149. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Walda Ṣādeq
Zurich 12 February 1896



ወተላከ ፡ ከመ-ሴ ፡ ኤልግ ፡ ከመ-ሴ ፡ ሸፍኔ ፡ ያዕሬስ ፡
ነገክሡር ፡ ወየ.ሺችን ፡ ካሐሸ ፡ ወልሃ. ፡ ጸዲቅ ፡ መዲሳኔ ፡
ዓለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ይስፍልኝ ፡ ብለኝ ፡ ኔሁ ፡ ኔነኝ ላለኝ ።
ቼቹጉን ፡ ክንዲት ፡ ሰነበቱ ፡ ወዲሺችን ፡ ሆይ ፡ ኔና ፡ በ
ኔግዚአብሔር ፡ ሞረኔት ፡ ብር ስም ፡ ውቃቤ ፡ የ.ሳና ፡ ነነ ።
ጌታዲ ፡ ሆይ ፡ ሂስ ፡ ይበለ- ፡ ሺንሆይ ፡ ክቱጌ ፡ ሥራዊታቹ ፡
ሁሉ ፡ ፍ.ሳና ፡ ነው ፡ ጠላታቹ ፡ ወየ ፡ ሲላ ፡ ነገ ሽቶ ፡ የ.ንግትዋል ፡
ክየራችን ፡ ኤውርፓ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ክኢጣሊያ ፡ ብሠር ፡ የሺንሆያ ፡
በርታት ፡ ና ፡ ሞረኔት ፡ ኔዮግ ፡ ክዲረጎ ፡ ያጠመስገናል ፡ ና ፡
ሃሃ.ነቃል ። ኔነኛ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ የኤትዮጵያ ፡ ወሃ.ሺች ፡ ክንዱ ፡
ክክወየች ፡ ኔ ፡ ኔኝረሃለኝ ። ኔህው ፡ ክሁኔ ፡ ወሰ-ሴ ፡ ነለ-ኔል ፡
ለዋንጤር ፡ ገኛ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ክሃለ ፡ ጊዚ ፡ ጥግኔኝት ፡ በርቱ ፡
ብርተ ፡ ገ-ሃ.ሃ ፡ ጥጣክርዋ ፡ ወሂ ፡ ኛንሃሃ ፡ ሂዙለመ ፡
የተያመ ፡ ቢሆን ፡ ጭ- ፡ ጭ- ፡ ለምሂረከ ፡ ሀሃንጉዋልና ፡
ክየራዋን ፡ ክሃራዋን ፡ ጌታዲ ፡ ኖለ- ፡ ቱለ- ፡ ክሰዘዐርው ፡
ሰውን ፡ ክብት ፡ ክየረጎ ፡ በሃ.ሳና ፡ ሸንኝት ፡ ሲየ.ሃ-ት ፡ ክሃ
ነገዎ ፡ ሙለ- ፡ ኔሂሃ.ር ። ለርሰቹ ፡ መንም ፡ ክክፉ ፡ መንገድ ፡
ቢሆኔ ፡ የሚአስጌራ ፡ የለም ፡ ኔሁግ ፡ ብርቱ ፡ ለመንገየ.ኛ ፡
ናቹና ፡ ክዎቻቹ ፡ ብረቱ ፡ ናት ። ቱለ- ፡ ኔንየ.ሰ የ.ሃ-ት ፡
በጣም ፡ ኸለመነ ዋለሁ ።
ዙሪክ ፡ በየክቱት ፡ ዘ ፲፪ ቀን ፡ በ፲፰፻፺፮ ዓ ለመተ ፡ ምሕረት ።

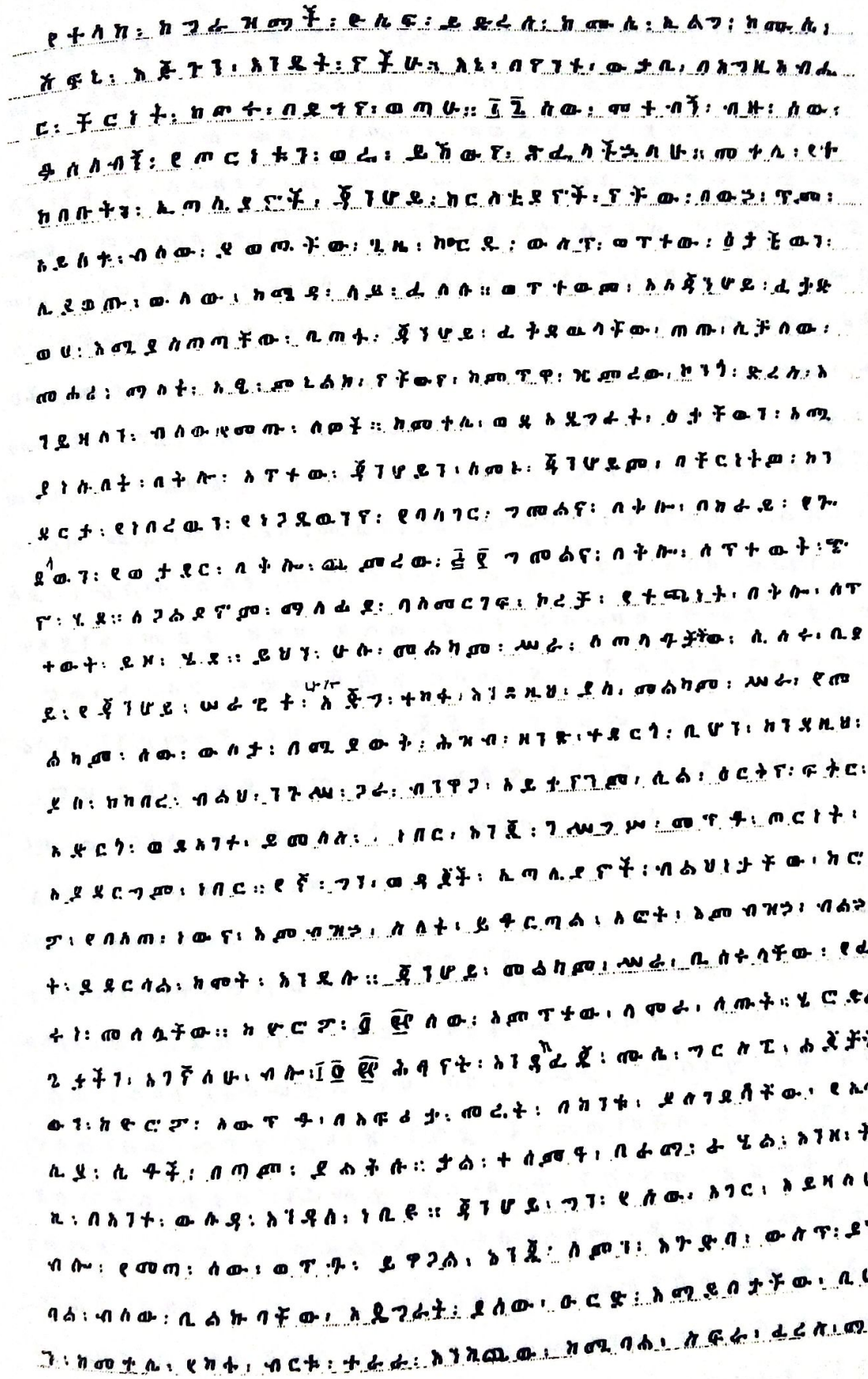
150. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Gandabtā Camp 21 February 1896

ሰመዓ፡እየበሳ፡ዞአመነገጸ፡ደሁጺ፡ጴጥሮስ፡ወ፣ምኔልክ፡ለዊልመ፡እግዚአ
ብሔር፡ዚኦሠ፣ነግለሠቱ፡ዘኢትቍጽ፡ደ፡፡ደጽረስ፡ኪመሲ፡እልግ፡ኬግጺ
ት፡ስጂሣተሃልል፡፡እኔ፣እግዞአላህ፡ደመለዘነኛ፡ጽህየ፡፤ኛ፡፡ሰትጽሣ
ለሠ፡ቢ፤ቀጊ፡በሺ፤ፀ፤ፅ፤ፅ፤ፅ

151. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē Camp 31 March 1896

ሞዓ፡አግበሰ፡ዘአምነግዴ፡ይሁኔ፡ዓላማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠፍመ፡
እግዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይድረስ፡ከሙሴ፡ኤልግ። እንዴት፡ሰንብተሃል። እኔ፡እግዚአብ
ሔር፡ይመስገን፡ዘሀና፡ነኝ።በጥር፡በ፲ቀን፡የተጻፈ፡ዴብዘይ፡ጸ
ረሰልኝ። እኔ ምክአሳጌ፡ጠርነት፡በኋላ፡ወዴ፡ትግሬ፡መረት፡ዘም
ቺ፡ኢጣልያኖችን፡መቀሌ፡ተከበው፡አግኝቼው። ከዚህ፡በኋላ፡
እርቅ፡ይሻላል፡ብዬ፡አስወጥቼ፡ብሰዴቸው፡በጥንባቸው፡አድ
ዋ፡ድረስ፡ከሰራረ፡መጥተው፡ድል፡ሆኑ። አሁንም፡ወዴ፡ሸዋ፡
መመለሴ፡ነው። በነጉ ግሣና፡በነቀጣው፡ነገር፡ምን፡ያኖድ ድሃል።
እኔ፡መሰዴ፡ጥፀብ፡የተማራ፡እንዴሆነ፡ይጠቀሙበታል፡ብዬ፡
ነበር። አሁንም፡እኔን፡ጠልተው፡ከሂዱ፡ከሂዱበት፡አገር፡ይኑ
ሩ፡ጥንባቸውን፡ይረድ ፀው። እኔን ም፡እንምጣ፡ብፅዉ፡ቢልኩ
ብኝ፡፩ጊዜ፡ጠልታቹሁኝ፡ሂዳቹኋል፡ከሂዳቹሁበት፡አገር፡ኑሩ፡
ብዬ፡ላክሁባቸው። ሰነዚያ፡ቀረባቸው፡እኔ ጄ፡እኔን፡ምን፡ም
ዲኝ፡ብለህ፡ነው። ይልቁስ፡ዝም፡ብለህ፡የሄድህበትን፡ሥራ፡
ጨር ሰህ፡ና። የጠርነቱን ም፡ነገር፡ላራዝማቹ፡ዮሴፍ፡ይልክብ
ሃል፡ብዬ፡ነው። ምሽትህን ም፡መውለዴዋን፡ሰማሁ። እኔ ኪን፡
ዴሰ፡አለህ። እኔ፡ጣን፡እዴሰ፡አበባ፡ግብትህ፡አግኝሃዕሁ፡ብዬ፡ት
ሰሩ፡አልችም። እግዚአብሔር፡በሕይወት፡ሠን፡ለመገናኘት፡ያብቃን።
በመጋቢት፡በ፩፫ቀን፡በመቀሌ፡ሰፈር፡በ፲፰፻፹፱ዓመተ፡ምሕረት፡ተጻፈ።

152. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux
Maqalē 31 March 1896



ነው፡ እንጂ፡ ለግር፡ ለፈረስ፡ እማይመች፡ ገደል፡ ነበረ። ይህ ነው መሰለኝ፡ ሰው፡
የመሬታን፡ ለብቻው፡ የገረፈው ነው መሰለኝ። [illegible]
ፍ፡ ሰው፡ ለብቻው፡ እያደረገ፡ ትንሽ፡ ሌሊት፡ አሳለፈው። ጌታም ያመ፣ የሠራዊ
ራው፡ ከፍተኛ፡ በቂ፡ ሠራዊት፡ በከንቱ፡ ሕላስፈጅመ፡ ፫፡፡ ወደ አለመ
ራ፡ አሄድኩት፡ የገጅ፡ ከሚዳ፡ ይወጣ፡ የሰመጀ፡ ለለሰው፡ ወደ ጸሐመራ፡ ከ
መሐጅ፡ አድዋ፡ ወርዳው፡ ስፈተ፡ ሠራዊትገመ፡ እየከፈሱ፡ ስንቱን፡ ያስ
ቲፕሩት፡ ዝመረ፡ ፡ ደርሱ፡ ሰላ ይ፡ ግን፡ ፪፡፪፡፯ ብር፡ እየሰጠ፡ የሚሰደው፡
በ ሠራዊታችን፡ ልክ፡ ነበር። ነገር፡ ግን፡ እንድመ፡ እለመ^ጠ፡ ። ጌታሆይ፡ ግን፡ መ
ሐሪ፡ ነው፡ ሞቲ፡ የሚገባትውን፡ በ ሰንሲሰት፡ ከደ ሠተ፡ አስ ቱመ ፕ ፐ ቸው። ሰ
ው፡ ከመ ከረው፡ ስገጺ ስብሔር፡ ያ ሰበው፡ ይበልጣሰና፡ መ ነገድ፡ ስ ይመታችሁ
ከጺሁ፡ እገላግለችኋለሁ፡ ሲል፡ ግን፯ብ፡ እሚፈልግ፡ ፬ ደድዋ፡ ደኃ፡ እጀ፡ ቁማ
ጣ፡ ተሰቡን፡ ሲያመጣ፡ ሰ ሄድ፡ ቢ ያይ፡ ሠራ ዊቱ፡ ሁ ሉ፡ እህል፡ ሲያመ
ጣ፡ ሂጂ ል፡ ብቻውን፡ ተ ተመ ጦልሃል፡ ስገነሽ ውመ፡ ዛሬ፡ ስ ጠኽ ውመ፡ ዛሬ፡ ብ
ሉ፡ ቢ ነግሪው፡ በር ሱ፡ ቤ ት፡ ደሰ፡ መ ክር፡ በ ሮ፡ ቤ ት፡ የሌ ስ፡ መሰ ሉ ት፡ ያ ስ
ሰው፡ ታል፡ ሰ ምጭ፡ ከ ክራ ለ ት፡ ተ ራ ራ፡ ወር ደ፡ ከ ጺህ፡ ተ ደ መ፡ ስገ ጀ ፍ
ኩል መ፡ ፪ ቱ ን፡ ጀ ኔ ራ ሉ ች፡ ወ ጀግ መ ሪ፡ ከ ፴፭ ፪ መ ድ ፍ፡ ጋ ራ፡ ስ ሰ ል ፎ፡
ስ ር ሱ፡ ጋ ን፡ የ ትረ ው ን፡ መ ድ ፎ ና ፡ ደ ፬ ጀ ነ ራ ሱ፡ ጦ ር፡ የ ሐማ ሲ ነ ና፡ የ ሰራ
የ ን፡ የ ኩ ሉ፡ ጋ ዝ ያ ን፡ የ ፫ ቱ ን፡ ደ ጀ ዝ ጠ ቆ ች፡ ጦ ር፡ ይ ጽ፡ ደ ጀ ን፡ ሆ ና ፡
ሲ ነ ጋ፡ ባ፲፭ ሰ ዓ ት፡ ከ ጀ ነ ሆ ይ፡ ጀ ሰ ፍ ች፡ ጋ ራ፡ ተ ኩ ስ፡ ዝ መ ረ ፡ ስ ነ በ ሰ ው፡ ጠ ፋ
ል ክ፡ በ ብ ረ ት፡ ጉ ያ ት፡ የ ታ ጠ ቱ ፡ ደ ህ ን፡ በ ሰ ሙ ፡ ጊ ዜ፡ ሠ ራ ዊ ት ቃ ል ን፡ ሁ ሉ፡ አ
ሰ ሬ ው ፡ ወ ጡ፡ በ ጣ ር ደ ጉ ሙ፡ ሸ ፒ ቱ ፡ በ ኩ ል ፡ ራ ሱ፡ ሚ ካ ኤ ል ን ፡ ። ራ ሱ፡ መ ነ ገ ሸ
ዮ ሐ ንሰ ን ። ጥ ግ፡ ሥ ዩ ጉ፡ ኃ ነ ጉ ል ን ። ሰ ደ ው ፡ የ ገ ራ ው ን፡ ሰ ል ፍ ፡ ነ ጠ ሙ ት ፡ ተ
ኑ ን፡ በ አ ባ፡ ገ ሪ ማ፡ በ ኩ ል ፡ ነ ጉ ሠ ፡ ተ ክ ለ፡ ሃ ይ ማ ኖ ት ን ፡ ሰ ደ ጀ ች ው ። ማ ኸ ሉ
ን፡ በ ጃ ነ ሆ ይ ፡ ግ ን ባ ር፡ ሐ ታ ው ራ ሪ፡ ገ በ የ ሁ ና ፡ ሐ ታ ው ራ ሪ፡ ተ ከ ሊ ን ፡ ራ ሱ ፡
መ ኩ ነ ን ፡ ደ ጃ ች ፡ በ ሸ ዘ ን፡ ጠ መ ነ ጃ ፡ ደ ኸ ን ። ክ ነ ዱ ያ ፡ ተ ኖ ሎ ፡ ራ ሱ ፡ ወ ሌ ና፡
ራ ሱ፡ ሊ ት ወ ደ ድ ፡ መ ነ ገ ሸ ን ፡ ቱ ር ክ ፡ ባ ሸ ፡ ታ መ ሪ ን ፡ በ ሩ ድ ፡ ሌ ት ን ፡ ሰ ጸ
ጂ ። ተ ፐ ሰ ው ፡ ጃ ነ ሆ ይ ፡ ማ ኸ ል ፡ ሰ ቅ ፈ ን ፡ ኦ ለ ል ፈ ው ፡ ሰ ነ ደ ት ፡ ኦ ለ መ ም ነ
ና ፡ ነ ገ ሪ ተ መ ን ፡ ኦ ሰ ተ ድ መ ው ፡ ዘ ለ ኩ በ ት ። ። ከ ጺህ ፡ ተ ጸ መ ፡
ያ ሰ ተ ጸ ረ ን ፡ በ ብ ኩ ይ ፡ ጠ ነ ን ሠ ፒ መ ፡ ደ ሰ ተ ን ሃ ፡ በ ሐ ጂ ስ መ ፡ በ ነ ን ሡ ፡ ነ ን
ሠ ታ ት ፡ ደ ሰ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ሃ ይ ጣ ና ት ፡ በ ተ ና ተ በ ት ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ መ ተ ማ መ ን ፡ በ ጠ ፋ ፡
ጊ ዜ ፡ የ ተ ጸ ረ ን ፡ እ ጂ ሰ ፡ ታ ሪ ክ ፡ ል ን ገ ራ ች ሁ ። ። በ ኦ ሪ ት ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ የ ነ በ ሩ ፡ ኃ ይ ለ ኛ

በመጋቤ ሐዲስ ጎሳዬ ገብረ ሥላሴ ዘመቀሌ ዘደር ተጸፈ

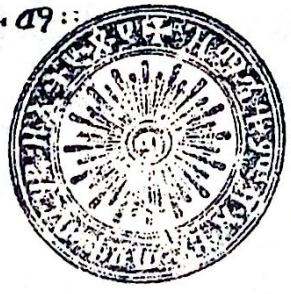
Joseph Ngousi

153. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē Camp 31 March 1896

የተሳካ፡ካለቃ፡ገብረ፡ሥላሴ፡ዘወ·እቴ፡ጻሐፌ፡
ትእዛዝ።ይድረሰን፡ከሙሴ፡ኢልግ፡ጤና፡ይሰጥ
ልኝ፡እኩ·ጉ·ኝ፡እግዚኦት፡ኑዋ፡እኒ፡ኢጣዚአብሔር፡
ይመሥግን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ።በእጣዚአብሔር፡ጦርነት፡
ከኢጣልያኖች·ም፡ጦር፡በደኅና፡ወጣሁ።ይኅም፡
እጣዚአብሔር፡እርሰዋ·ንም፡በደኅና፡አመጥ·ጣ·
ዋ፡በዓይነ፡ሥጋ፡ለመተያየት፡ያብቃኝ።በ መጋ
ቤት፡በእ·ርቀኝ፡በመቀሌ፡ሰፈር፡ተ·ዓሌ። ባ·ፒ·ይ·ፀ
ቨ·ይ·ዓመቱ፡ምሕረት።

154. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
... 30 April "1896"

155. Ṭāytu Bəṭul To Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 23 June 1896



156. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 11 August "1896"

ፀተላከ፡ከራስ፡መኮንን፡ደጁረስ፡ከክቡር፡ወዲኚ፡
ከመ-ሲ፡ኤልሳ፦ ብዙወ-ን፡እባዪት፡ሰጊብተሃል፡
ጢናህሳስ፡እባኢ፡ሃመን፡ነህ። መግባኢስ፡በደፋና፡
ዘለቅከው-ን፡ልኽችህን፡ሚስትህን፡ቤትህን፡
በደፋና፡አግኘህን። እኔ፡እዛአብሐር፡ደመስግን፡
እስካሁ-ን፡ድረስ፡ደፋና፡ነኝ፦ ደልቁግም፡ደፋጊነ
ትህን፡እባኢታስታወ-ቀኝ፡ደሁ-ን፡አደራህን፦—
እዛአ-በሐር፡ጢና፡ደስጣህ። ተጻፈ፡ነሳሴ፡
፲፫ቀን፡ሐረር፡ነተ-ማ።—

157. Walda Ṣādeq to Alfred Ilg
"Ankobar" 12 August "1896"

ፀጊላከ፡ካዘኻ፡ወልደ፡ጻ ድ ቁ። ደ ዱረ ሰ፡ነመ-ሲ፡ኤ
ልሳ።እ ግ ዬ ጊ፡ሰጊወጊ ሃል።እኔ፡እላዘ አብሐር፡ደመ
ሠግሂ፡ዬ ፋናና፡ነኝ። እ ጊጉ ሰ፡በ ዬ ፋና፡ግባህ፡ዊ ታ ው
ገሰ፡በ ዬ ፋና፡ዘለ ቁህ። እንመለከ፡አብሮ ሃም፡ከርሰዱ
ሰ፡በ ሐ ደ ወጊ፡ሠ ጋ፡ለመ ባናኘ ጉ፡ደብ ታ ግ።
በነ ሐ ሴ፡በ ፸ ቀ ግ፡ጥ ደ ፈ።

የኢትዮጵያ ጥናት ምርምር
INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPA
STUDIES
የውጭ አገር ቋንቋዎች
FOREIGN LANGUAGES

158. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Cesare Nerazzini
Ḥarar 13 August 1896

Copie

[illegible]

159. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 19 August "1896"

ደዛዝማች ፡ ከብሬሌ ፡ ኤፍጣ ፡ ይድረስ ፡ ከክቡር ፡ ጌታዬ ፡
ከፅሁፍ ፡ መኳንንት ፡ መድታኔ ፡ ዓለምና ፡ ጠና ፡ ይሰጥልኝ ፡ ብዬ ፡ ሄኖክ ፡
ከሩሳለሁ ። ኦሄኖክንና ፡ አንዷት ፡ ሰነበቱ ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ አሌ ፡ ኋላዪአዝ
ዘር ፡ ይወስነንና ፡ ደሳናና ፡ ነኝ ። ከሷንሦይ ፡ ከአጼ ፡ በደሳና ፡
ተባርኛሁ ፡ ዝነፉ ፡ ጉዲዮ ፡ ሁሬሜወትንጽኅንር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ አማኖረ ።
አሁንም ፡ ሳኪያ ፡ ነፉሲነ ፡ ችሎ ፡ ችሉ ፡ ቢመጡ ፡ መልካያ ፡
ነበር ። የአርቅ ፡ ነገር ፡ ኦሄኖ ፡ የግሁተተን ፡ አንዱ ፡ ሆነ ፡መልካያ ፡
አይደለያ ። መርከኖ ፡ ችሉ ፡ አገራቹ ፡ ቢገቡ ፡ ይሸለል ፡
ነገር ፡ ግን ፡ አለ ፡ ሄርቅ ፡ የሚሠን ፡ አይደለያ ። አርበያ ፡
ደግሞ ፡ ደኛት ፡ መረ ፡ ችሉ ፡ ችሉ ፡ ወዱ ፡ ሷንሦይ ፡ ቢልከ ፡
መልካያ ፡ ነው ፡ አይበዛኑ ። የመሌ ፡ ሳጋር ዱ ፡ መለሽ ፡ ጣና ፡
ነው ። የውል ፡ ግልባቹ ፡ ኤርስያ ፡ ዘኒዩ ፡ ነው ፡ ይመስለናል ፡
ችሉ ፡ ለሷንሦይ ፡ ቢሰዉደ ፡ መልካያ ፡ ነበር ። አለቃ ፡ ገብረ ፡
ሥላሴ ፡ ከዚህ ፡ ሳይያ ፡ ሳኩልኝ ፡ ዝዬ ፡ ፊክደ ሰሁ ፡ ዝሰጡኝ ፡
ነበር ፡ ነጣር ፡ ግን ፡ ሩስኮ ፡ ዛረ ፡ ይረስ ፡ አልመጣ ያ ።
መስከሰኞ ያ ፡ ዬሱሹም ፡ ሷንሦይ ፡ ደይሳና ፡ ኩሳ በለ ፡ በደሳና ፡
አሰቃመጣቹ ። ዘንይር ፡ አደሰ ፡ አበባ ፡ ፎረንጅ ፡ ቢቻ ፡ ሆነ ፡
ኤኖ ፡ አርጌዮቹ ፡ ሄኖ ፡ ይገረመኛል ። ያመ ሆነ ሰነ ፡ ሰኑ ፡ አንዱ ፡
ኖረን ፡ ይሸለን ፡ ነበር ፡ ዘረ ፡ ኤኖ ፡ ኤኖ ፡ በዛ ።
ኤባክያ ፡ ይሄንን ፡ ይ ይ ፡ ዳቦ ፡ ለያመሸጭ ፡ ና ፡ ለመሌ ፡ በቂ ፡ ችሉ ፡
ሆሉ ፡ ወዱ ፡ ባሰር ፡ ነይ ይ ፡ ልኳል ፡ አይራያን ፡ ጌታዬ ፡ አይራያን ፡
ሥራ ስቶ ፡ ኤንዲይ ቱ ፡ ኤባ ክያ ፡ ጌታዬ ። የኔን ፡ አይራሱ ፡ ጌታዬ ።
አዲስ ፡ አበባ ፡ በነሃሴ ፡ በ፲፱ ቀን ፡ ሥኡ ፈ ።

160. Cesare Nerazzini to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Zeila 20 August 1896

ሃጥላክ ፡ ከሣዓኺር ፣ ነፌዊኤ ፣ ሂኢጣልያ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ባለሙሉ ፡ ችሎት ፡ መልክቱኛ ፣ ያዩሪሰ ፡ ወሂ ፡ ወዩኸ ፣ ራስ ፣ ሙክሙንን ፡ ሃሐረር ፡ ገና ፡ ያውራ ኸችዋ ፡ ግዝ ። በብዙ ፡ ፍቅር ፡ ሰላምታዮን ፣ ኣቀርብለዎ ፡ አዕሁ ።

በነሳሰ ፡ ፯ቱን ፡ ሀሙኬ ፣ ያዝሃለውችዎን ፡ ሉሃብዮ ፡ ኣነበብሁ ። ምክርዎን ፣ የስጠኸኝ ፡ ነገር ፡ መልካም ፡ ኣደረኸ ፡ ኣነም ፡ ኣሰሰግናዎ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ኣርስዎ ፣ በኔ ፡ ኣንዴ ፡ ሠኑቱ ፡ ኣሠራተኛ ፡ ወዩኸ ፡ ኣንዲህ ፡ ሳየ ፡ ዮረግ ፡ ይግበዋል ። ኣሁን ፡ ባፍኔር ፡ ቃል ፡ ኣነሠ ፣ ኣመልስለዎ ፡ አለሁ ። ኣኔ ፡ በፍጹም ፡ ሐግ ፡ ኣንዲሆንሁ ፡ ይወቱ ፡ እርሰዎ ፡ ደሉጭ ፡ ሁሉም ፡ ኣለኛ ። ኣኔ ፡ ከኢትዮጵያ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ኣግሠት ፡ ጋራ ፡ ውልን ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ያመዋል ፡ ለመጽፉል ፡ ያጣሙ ፡ ባሂሰ ፡ የፅርጵ ፣ ፈ-ል ፡ ታቸያ ፡ ለዓፂኝ ፡ ለመጻፍ ፡ ከጥያዓዊ ፡ ኡምበርሎ ፡ ዛፃኑም ፡ ጋራ ፡ የኮኣል ፡ ትእዛዝ ፡ ኣለኛ ። ያያመበርን ፡ የቀረንም ፡ በታቹ ፡ ሰሠፂን ፡ የያመጽናስ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ሄንሠይ ፡ ንጉሥ ፡ ኡምበርሎ ፡ ኣንደ ፡ ኣፈት ፡ ሥፕር ፡ ሃሡ ። ደህን ፡ ነግር ፡ ለጂንሠይ ፡ ኣዘጠ ፡ ምኔልክ ፡ ጽፈለ ቸው ፡ ኣለሁ ። በሳረርጌ ፡ ሶፌር ፡ የምሉ ፡ ሥልጣኔ ፡ ያብያቢን ፡ ኣሳየሃ ፡ ኣለሁ ። የጂንሠይ ፡ ኣበጌ ፡ ምኔልክ ፡ ኣሳብን ፡ ነገ ፡ ኽሳያኝ ፡ በስልክ ፡ ልኬ ፡ ጭሉ ፡ ለመፃፃ ሥቱ ፡ ኣስታውቃለሁ ። ኣንዲህያ ፣ ለለመቀምሉ ፡ ኣሸሉ ፡ ኣስፍወናለሁ ። ሚን ፡ ኣሠሩ ፣ የጂንሠይ ፣ የኣጠ ፣ ምኔልክ ፡ የሰው ፡ ሃጭ ፡ መጠበቅሃ ፡ ያብያቢን ፡ ሰልታክል ፡ ወሂ ፡ ኪትዮጵያ ፡ ሰጠግባት ፡ ኣንጀለሾል ፡ ኣነግረም ፡ ኣለሁ ። ይህ ፡ ከመንግሥቱ ፡ ሞተበ ሰዎ ት ፡ ሥርኛ ፡ ትእዛዝ ፡ ነጭ ። ኣሁኑ ፣ ይህን ፡ የጂንሠይ ፡ ደብያቢ ፡ ከመንግድ ፡ ኣለች ፡ ብዙ ፡ ተሰቅ ፡ ኣለኛ ። ሞሉም ፡ ከዚህ ፡ ኣንድ ፡ ነሳ ፡ ሥርሰሃ ፡ ቃሉ ፡ ኣንድ ያሰረዲልኛ ፡ ኣለምነኝ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ለመርከ ሾች ፡ ኣምኔ ፡ ኣንደ ሰዉ ፡ ስለፈሃደልኛ ፡ ኣመሰግንዎ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ይህ ፡ ዘውነት ፡ የክርስቲያን ፡ ሥራ ፡ ነው ። የንግዜር ፡ በረከ ትም ፡ ባርሰዎ ፣ ለዩ ፡ ይመጣል ። ኣኔ ፡ ሳልጥፈ ፡ ጊዜ ፡ ኣበኝ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ወዲርሰዎም ፡ ኣሰደዋለሁ ። ኣርሰዎን ፡ ኣሁን ፣ ወዩ ፣ ሽዋ ፡ ለማድረስ ፡ የሚያወጡት ፡ ገንዘብን ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ያስጽፌ ፡ ኣኔም ፡ ይወጽሉ ፡ ግን ዘብን ፣ ሁሉ ፣ ኣከፍለለሁ ። የጠበኝ ፡ ውም ፡ ሩግር ፡ ለኣንግሊዙ ፣ ግዜ ፡ ኣነግራለሁ ፡ የሚመልስልኝን ፡ ምላሽ ፡ ኣልክስዎ ፡ ኣለሁ ። ኣንግሊዝ ፡ የመግባት ፡ ችሉት ፡ ደለበት ፡ የጂንሠይ ፡ ደብያቢን ፡ ችሉ ፡

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[illegible]

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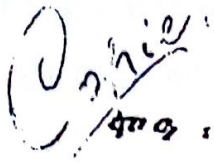
Documents

161. Menilek II to Léonce Lagarde
Addis Ababā 1 September 1896



ቁጥ ፡ አንበሳ ፡ . . . . . .

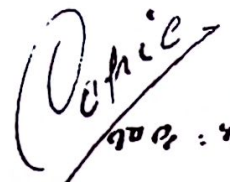
ይድረሰ ፡ ከጡሬ ፡ ላጋርዴ ፡ ሙሉ ፡ ለልጣን ፡ የተሳበለ ፡ ምንስቱር ፡ ዚቪቡቺያ ፡ ገኛ ። ሰላምም ፡ ላንተ ፡ ይሁን ።

የጉበሬ ፡ የፈረንሲስ ፡ ፕረዚዲዳ ፡ በሰፋ ፡ በሆነን ፡ ደጀንን ፡ በላከልኝ ፡ ይህ ፡ ደብዳቤ ፡ ሺን ሆይ ፡ የሚያውቁኞው ፡ በነሳችንዛው ፡ ያሉ ፡ የኛ ፡ ሹማምንቶች ፡ ሰለ ፡ ሁለታችን ፡ አገር ፡ ፕቅም ፡ በመስማማት ፡ የበታውን ፡ ነገር ፡ የሚሻለውን ፡ እያያችሁ ፡ ጨርሱ ፡ ዘለናል ፡ ኺ ሆነም ፡ በሰረር ና ፡ ወደ ፡ ኺቡቲ ፡ በሚቀርቡ ፡ ነገርኞ ፡ ላሉ ፡ ሹማምንትኞ ፡ ይህን ፡ ጥሩ ፡ የነበረውን ፡ ፍቅሬኞንን ፡ በ ጨመም ፡ ልቡና ፡ ባጭረ ፡ ዚቪቡቺ ፡ መንገድ ፡ የተረገጠ ፡ ሆኗልና ፡ ለማይለይል ፡ የሚደሰጌልግውን ፡ ትኤዛዝ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ኺን ሆይ ፡ ነን ደያዙ ፡ ኤናምንዎታለን ፡ ብለው ፡ ጦሳኝ ፡ ሰራ ፡ መደጉ ፡ በሰሬ ፡ በሆኑኒ ፡ በደጅኝ ፡ የተሄጌ ፡ ደብደቤ ፡ በፍቅር ፡ በመሰማማት ፡ ኤየሱማ ከራኞሁ ፡ ከሰረር ጌ ፡ ገኛው ፡ ከራስ ፡ መኩንን ፡ ጋራ ፡ ኤንድትሄዱ ር ሱ ፡ ለራስ ፡ መኩንን ፡ ልኩዋለሁ ። ለኛም ፡ ለመንግሥታችንም ፡ ሰላምና ፡ በኒኖ ፡ ከኢግዚኣብሔር ፡ ዘንድ ፡ ሰለለመጣ ፡ ይልን ፡ እግዚኣብሔር ፡ ይመስግን ። ኤንሱንም ፡ እግዚኣብሔር ፡ ኤድጣቸው ፡ ጤና ፡ ይስጥህ ።

በነሃሴ ፡ በሸኟኑ ፡ በደሰ ፡ አበባ ፡ ከሱማ ፡ ሙንሌ ፡ በየድያዝደያቀመተ ፡ምሕረት ።

Documents

162. Menilek II to Félix Faure
Addis Ababā 1 September 1896



ክመሪ ፡ ኣጓበሳ ፡ . . . .

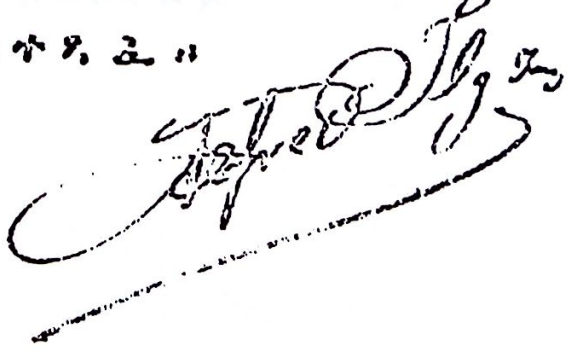
ደ.ድረስ ፡ ኣፍኒ ፡ መደ ፡ ነበረ ፡ ወዳ ፡ ታሬራ ፡ ወደ.ኽኽጓ ፡ ርሙሰ ፡ ፈሊክስ ፡ ፈር ፡ የፈራጓሲስ ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ኖረ ዚደ.ነ ፡ ሰላም ፡ ለርስዎ ፡ ይሁን ። ፦

በሰኔ ፡ በ፫ቱን ፡ በ፲፱ኝ.ኛ.ዓመት ፡ በግሪጎ ፡ ኣቆጣጠር ፡ የተጻፌ ፡ ኣኽጣ ፡ የነበርረ ፡ የተወደ.ደ. ፡ የተዋበ ፡ በመጋቢት ፡ በፅኑ ፡ በ፲፰፻፺ ፭.ዓመተ ፡ ምሕረት ፡ የተጻፌ ፡ በሁለታችን ፡ መንግሥት ፡ መካከል ፡ የሚደረግውን ፡ የላክሁትን ፡ ወ-ል ፡ ተቀብለናል ፡ የሚል ፡ ደብዳቤው ፡ ደረሰልኝ ፡ መልካሙንም ፡ ሮ ፈቅር ፡ ለመላሽዎን ፡ በየሁ ፡ ጊዜ ፡ ኣፅ-ገ ፡ ዲስ ፡ አለኝ ። ኣሁንም ፡ ጥረዚዲን ፡ ኣንድላኩብኝ ፡ ከ፫ቡቱ ፡ ሐረርጌ ፡ ድረስ ፡ ያለውን ፡ የበታውንም ፡ የሱረውንም ፡ ትንንሽ ፡ ኣገር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ በፍቅርና ፡ በመስማማት ፡ በሐረርጌ ፡ ደለው ፡ የኔ ፡ ሹም ፡ ራስ ፡ መኩንን ፡ ከ፫ቡቱ ፡ ሸዋማምጫች ፡ ጋራ ፡ ኣንዲጨፈስ ፡ ልኬ በታሰረ ፡ ኣሳዘነ ፡ የሁለታችን ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ሹማ ወጋን ችች ፡ ምኞታችንን ፡ በሚገባ ፡ ኣንዲጨርሱ ፡ ተስፈ ፡ ኣለኝ ። ኣሁን ፡ ግን ፡ ይህ ፡ በመጋቢት ፡ የላክሁላዎ ፡ የወ-ል ፡ ፯ኦ፬ኛ.ዓ.ም ፡ በአዘ ፊዎች ፡ ዐዐ ር ሳች ፡ ፩፬ፊ ዲልና ፡ ኑኖር ፡ ተሰስቶ ፡ ብናገኝ ፡ ኣንፎገና ፡ መልካም ፡ ኣድረግን ፡ ኣሳ ደ ጋመን ፡ ሰዲን ልዎታለንና ፡ ደን ፡ ፊት ፡ በ፡ዘመን ፫ቱ ፡ የላክሁላዎን ፡ የወ-ል ፡ ፯ብ፬ቢ ፡ መልስወ ፡ ኣንዲልኩልኝ ፡ ኣለመጓጎዎታለሁ ። ኣገር ፡ ግን ፡ ከሬ ዲል ፡ ወፃረ ፃዐ ፡ በሱር ፡ የተ ጨነረና ፡ የጉደለ ፡ ኣገር ፡ የለበትም ። የፈረንሳይ ፡ መንግሥት ፡ የርስዎ ን ም ፡ ሕዩዎት ፡ ኣንዲጠብቅ ፡ ኣጣዚኣብዘርን ፡ ኣንለመናለን ።

በኣዘሪ ፡ በ፹፯ኛ ሱን ፡ በ፬ኛ ፡ ኣበባ ፡ ከተማ ፡ በ፲፱፬፬ ዓ.ም ፡ ተጻፌ ።

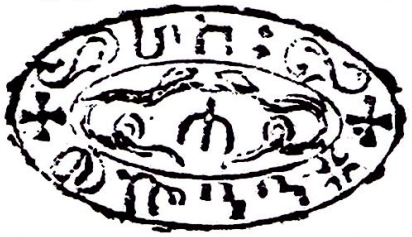
163. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 6 September "1896"

የሥላክ : ከመሥራ : ኢሉግ : ይድረስ : ከክብር : ወዳጁ :
ከራስ : መኮንን : መዲታ : ዓለም : ጤና : ይስጥልኝ : ብዬ : እጀ :
እኅዛለሁ : እጅጉን : እንዲት : ሰሩብኝ : ጊዜዬ : አሬ : እግዚአብሔር :
ይመስገን : ሂሳና : ሩኝ ። ሃኪም : ሬጅስራ : ቸሉ : ይመጣለናል :
ብለን : ሩበር : እሁንም : ሰይመጣ : ቢቀር : እኔን : ትቸገረን ።
እባክዎ : ጌታዬ : ይህን : የሚጠሡይ : ፈጥነው : ቸሉ : ቸሉ :
እኩላቸው : ሙሉ : እንዲወር ። እሬም : ግሰግስህ : ና : ብዬ : ፈኪዘሁ
ለሁ ። የሬ : እሸከር : ግብረ : መለሽ : ሲመጣ : ይረስ : እባክዎ :
በደሓና : እቅዱት : ና : መለሽ : ቸሉ : ይዞ : ይምጣ ።
የሩፍታን : ከበሀር : መደኽ : ቢሰማ : እኔን : እሂረኝ : እስዘ
ሩኝ : ነግር : ግን : ግኝ : የሰይመ : ብልሃት : እናስብም ። እርስዎ :
ይህን : ነግ ር : ሃኪም : ሬራስ. ሩ : ሲመጣ : መን ም : እን ዲ :
እያሩ ። እና : ጉዟ ይ : ሩው : እን ሺ : የሺን ሀ ይ : ግ-ሺ ይ :
እይዲለም ። እዲራዎን : ስም : ይበሉ : እሰው-ም : ይበሉ : የጠየ
ሙ : እን ዲ : ሠሩ ። ሬራስ ሩ : መሉ : ሥልጣን : ይዞ : የመጣ : እን ዲ :
ሠሩ : ራስ : መኮንን : ጌታዬ : እይሺ : ከሃኪም : ጋራ : ሲመጡ :
ነው : ዘለሉናል : ሺን ሠይ ። ስለዚህ : የዘሂሩ በት ን : ቀን : ና :
ሺን ሠይ : ዘን ዲ : የሚየር ሉ በታን : ሙን : እስኪይም : ለከ :
እዲራዎን ። መሰክሩኝ : ቸሉ : ቸሉ : ይምጣ ።
እሠን : ስነግነኝ : ድረስ : እግዚአብሔር : የጠበቅን ።
እዲስ : እበባ ; በኋላዊ : በ፲ቀን : ሰጪ ኤ ።

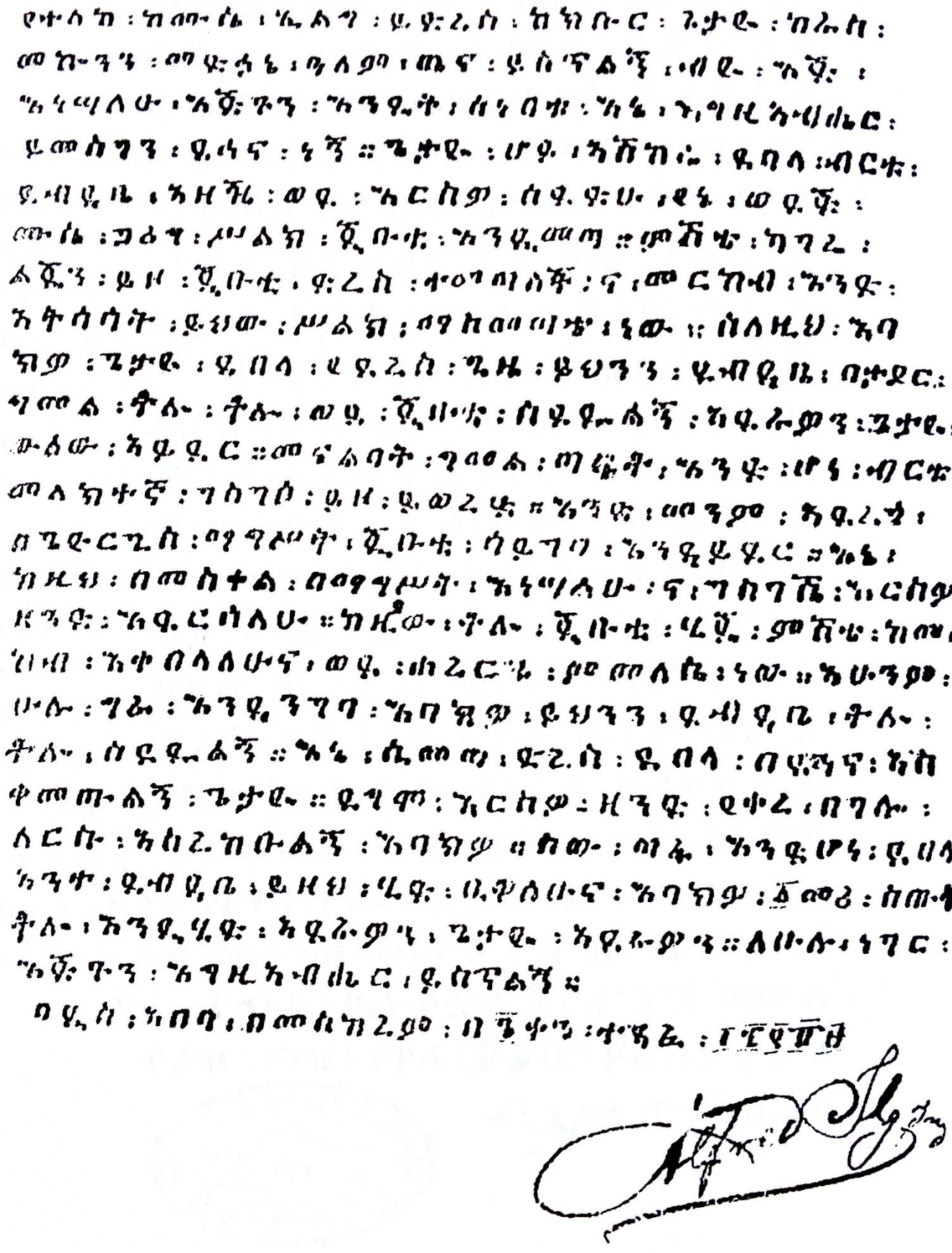


164. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
"Ḥarar" 7 September "1896"

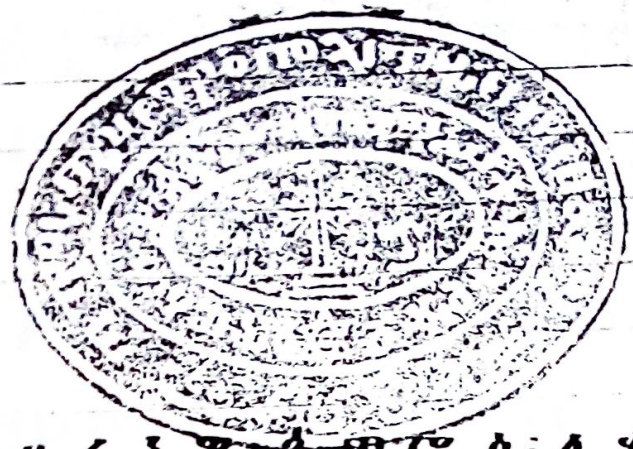
ፃተካከ፡ከራስ፡መኰንን። ደ.ዱረስ፡ከክ
ቡር፡ወዲኺ፡ከጡስ፡ኤልጎ።ብዙው
ኒ፡እኒ ዲት፡ስንብተሃል። ጤናህንስ፡እ
ንዲ፡ምነኒ፡ነህ። እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ይመ
ስገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ።የለከው ም፡ደብዳቤ፡
ዲረሰልኝ። ወደ፡ታች፡ስዲዱልኝ፡ደልነ
ውኒም፡ሰደዱኩልህ። ለጅቡቲው፡ሹም፡
ጣሉ፡እኒንዲትልከው፡ብዬ፡ላኩለት።
ከዚህም፡ደግሞ፡ወረ፡ወደ፡ጂንሦ
ደ፡እልካለሁ።ነገር፡ግን፡ከዚህ፡እርጎ
ኖ፡ወረ፡አልገኝ፡ብሏል። የውሉን፡ዲ
ብዲቤ፡ደልከውንም፡ወደ፡አለቃ፡ግብ
ረ፡ሥላሴ፡ልዚዋለሁ፡እስካሁን፡ደር
ሶ፡ደሞናል። ሲኪም፡ነፋቂም፡ከዘይ
ላ፡ተነስቶአል፡እስከ፬ኖ፮ቀን፡ሐረር
ቂ፡ደግበል።ፈረንጅም፡እዲስአበባ፡
ምን፡ደህልስ፡ቢበዛ፡ደው፡የዱሮው፡
ውል፡ደለው፡ወዲጅ፡ደበልጥብናል፡እን
ኺ፡ሊላው፡ምን፡ደረባል። እሁንም፡የሁ
ሉንም፡ነገር፡እንዲትዱፍልኝ፡ደሁን። እደ
ፉህን፡ደሉኳቸኝ፡ወዲኺ፡አንተነህና። በጓጉ
ጢ፡በ፫ቀን፡ተጻፈ።



165. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 15 September 1896



166. Ṗēṭros to Alfred Ilg
Ṣelāleš 17 September 1896

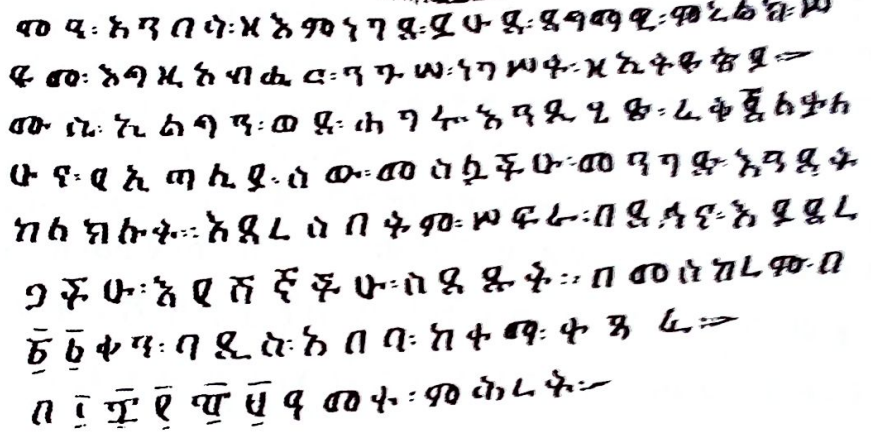


መ ል እ ክ ት ፡ ዘ ራ ኑ ዋ ፡ ጴ ጥ ሮ ስ ፡ ሊ ቀ ፡ ጳ ጳ ሳ ት ፡ ዘመ
ን ግ ሥ ት ፡ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፡ ግ ብ ሩ ፡ ወ ሐ ዋ ር ያ ሁ ፡ ለ ኤ
ዩ ሱ ስ ፡ ክ ር ስ ቶ ስ ፡ ወ መ ል ዱ ፡ ለ ቅ ዱ ስ ፡ ማ ር ቆ ስ ፡
ወ ን ጌ ላ ዊ ፡ ቄ ዱ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ል ዮ ፡ ከ ወ ዲ ቄ ፡ ከ ሙ ሴ ፡
ል ግ ፡ እ ን ዴ ት ፡ ከ ረ ም ክ ፡ እ ኔ ም ፡ እ ባ ት ህ ፡ ዲ ህ ና ፡
ነ ች ፡ እ ማ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ዐ መ ሰ ግ ን ፦ ፊ ት ፡ ሰ ት ዪ
ዩ ፡ ሳ ት ሰ ና በ ተ ኛ ፡ ዜ ሴ ክ ፡ ሰ ት ግ ግ ም ፡ ሳ ት ል ክ ብ ኛ ፡
ቀ ረ ህ ፡ ም ነ ው ፡ ፍ ቅ ራ ኞ ን ፡ እ ን ዲ ህ ፡ ነ ው ፡ እ ሁ ን
ም ፡ እ ን ኳ ፡ በ ዲ ህ ና ፡ ግ ባ ህ ፡ ሬ ት ፡ ማ ዛ ል ኛ ፡ ደ ል ኩ
ህ ፡ እ ቃ ፡ መ ነ ጭ ፡ እ ን ዴ ሁ ፡ ዋ ጋ ው ን ፡ በ መ ረ ቀ ት ፡ ‘ና
ራ ህ ፡ ክ ብ ላ ታ ፡ ግ ብ ረ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ላ ክ ል ኛ ’ እ ማ ዚ አ ብ ሔ
ር ፡ ቄ ጣ ር ክ ህ ፡ ዐ ቀ ዲ ስ ህ ፡ እ ማ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ለ መ ግ ና
ኘ ት ፡ ደ ብ ቃ ግ ፡ በ ፲ መ ፲ ፬ ፱ ዐ ፱ ዓ መ ተ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ፡
አ መ ፡ ፲ ለ መ ሰ ክ ረ ም ፡ ተ ጠ ራ ፡ በ ዲ ብ ረ ፡ ጅ ላ ል ኛ

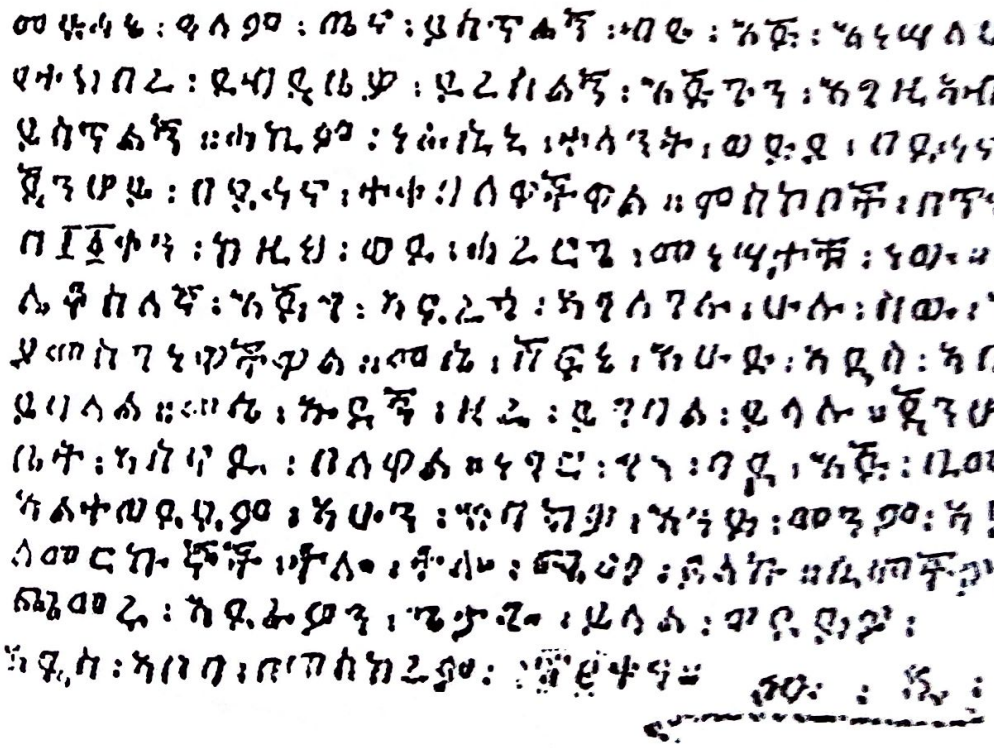
167. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 17 September "1896"

የተላከ፡ከራስ፡መኮንን፡ዱዱረስ፡ከወዲ
ጂ፡ከመ፡ሲ፡ኢልግ።ጐበዙ፡ጓደኛ፡ኤግዲት፡
ልግ፡ተላል።ጤናህን፡እንዲ፡ያ፡ነህ።
እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ይመሥገን፡ዲሳና፡ነ
ኝ።ሠላጅር፡ነፋ፡ቂኒ፡ም፡ይኸው፡ሐረርን፡
ግብጣአል፡በ፡ሉ፡ተነስ፡ይ፡መን፡ጣል።
እኔም፡በመስቀል፡ሰላሥት፡ተነስቼ፡
እመ፡ጣለሁ።ሠ፡ሲ፡ሽፍኒ፡ም፡ወይ፡ም፡
ይ፡ዲር፡ስብኝ፡ይ፡ሠናል፡ይ፡ግ፡እን፡መ፡ግለ
ግ።የጠመንጂው፡ም፡ነገር፡መስኮቦች፡እን
ኳግ፡ቢጠይ፡ኝ፡እንዲ፡ያው፡ነጋዲ፡ያወረ
ዋል፡እንጂ፡እኔ፡እግዲህ፡ያለ፡ነገር፡አልሰ
ማሁም፡አልኳቸው።ሰው፡ም፡አልሰ ሜ።
በመስከረም፡በጅ፡ካግ፡ተሳፈ።ሐረር፡ከተማ።

168. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 30 September 1896



169. Anonymous to Anonymous
Addis Ababā 1 October "1896"



170. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 3 October 1896

ሞዓ፡አጓበ ሳ፡ዘአምኑ ግ ዪ፡ይሁ ያ፡ደ ግ ማዊ፡ምኦ ሬ ላክ፡ሠ ይ
መ፡እ ግዜ አ ዘ ሐ ሌ ር፡ጓ ት ሠ፡ኑ ግ ሥ ት፡ዘ ኢ ኍ ዮ ጵ ያ።
ይ ዮ ሪ ሱ፡ከ ሙ ሴ፡ኡ ሬ ላ ግ፡አ ጓ ዪ ት፡ስ ጓ ዘ ዛ ሃ ል፡እ ኔ፡እ
ግ ዜ አ ዘ ሐ ሌ ር፡ይ መ ሥ ግ ጓ ፡ዪ ህ ና ፡ኑ ኟ ። ሙ ሴ፡ሽ ፍ ኦ፡ሐ
ሪ ር ጌ ፡ግ ባ ፡ኑ ለ ሎ ፡ራ ስ፡መ ኰ ጓ ጓ ፡ላ ክ ዘ ኟ ። ወ ዪ፡አ ጓ ዛ ም፡
የ ተ ሃ ራ ፡ዪ ዘ ዛ ቤ ፡ከ ራ ስ፡መ ኰ ጓ ጓ ፡ዪ ዘ ሃ ቤ ፡ን ራ ፡ባ ኟ ኟ ፡
ይ ኽ ው ፡ሰ ቁ ፱ ኤ ሃ ላ ሁ ። ሂ ዘ ዪ ቤ ሙ ም፡ የ ሙ ሴ ፡ሽ ፍ
ኦ ፡ይ መ ስ ለ ኛ ል ። በ መ ሰ ከ ረ ም፡ ቦ ፮ ፬ ቀ ጓ ፡ ባ ፤ ፹ ፱ ፵
ፅ ዓ መ ዛ ፡ም ሉ ረ ኍ ፡ ባ ፱ ሰ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ከ ተ ማ ፡ ኍ ጓ ሬ ።

171. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 25 October 1896

የ ተ ሳ ኣ ፣ ካ ወ ሰ ሌ ፡ ኣ ፈ ጣ ፣ ካ ሰ ወ ሱ ፡ ሽ ፍ ኡ ፣ ይ ዪ ረ ሱ ፡ ከ ክ ሰ ሁ ር ፡ ጌ ታ ዥ ኣ ፣
ካ ሠ ዪ ፱ ኟ ኣ ፡ ካ ራ ስ ፡ መ ክ ፡ ጎ ን ፡ ወ መ ሃ ፡ ኃ ኒ ፡ ሣ ለ ያ ፡ ለ ዊ ፡ ይ ስ ጎ ል ኘ ፡ ብ ሰ ጎ ፡
ኣ ጌ ፡ ኣ ጎ ኑ ሣ ለ ኒ ። ጌ ታ ዥ ጎ ፡ ሠ ዪ ፡ ሃ ለ ሰ ራ ሱ ት ፡ ሂ ስ ፡ ዪ ለ ሰ ፡ ፱ ጎ ዛ ሠ ዪ ፡ ና ፡
ወ ግ ፱ ር ፡ ኔ ራ ሉ ኒ ፡ ሃ ዕ ር ቅ ፡ ው ል ፡ ሥ ስ ወ ግ ያ ዐ ሣ ወ ፡ ኑ ግ ፡ ይ ታ ሥ ወ ግ ሰ ፡ ። ፡
ዐ መ ስ ወ ፍ ቃ ት ፡ ብ ኣ ፡ሣ ፱ ጵ ያ ፡ ኑ ዎ ኑ ሳ ፡ ብ ው ፊ ፣ ሌ ሴ ፡ ው ል ፡ ወ ዛ ራ ጌ ስ ፡ ወ ስ ኑ ፣
ግ ሃ ፡ ሩ ኒ ሰ ፡ ሥ ስ ወ ግ ያ ዐ ት ፡ ሌ ዪ ረ ሃ ፡ ኣ ስ ክ ዘ ያ ። ዪ ረ ስ ፡ ሠ ለ ዥ ፡ ወ ወ ኑ ግ ሠ ት ፡
ብ ያ ሰ ፡ ብ ት ፡ ይ ሠ ሦ ኑ ፡ ፮ ኑ ግ ር ፡ ፡ ሰ ዜ ለ ው ት ፡ ኑ ዎ ። ሃ ወ ር ክ ኞ ች ፡ ከ ሳ ራ ፣
ኣ ፡ ጣ ሌ ያ ፡ ኣ ኑ ሩ ፡ ሩ ፡ ኦ ፡ ኣ ፣ ራ ኽ ሪ ራ ሉ ። ሰ ዘ ሃ ፣ ሥ ስ ወ ሃ ወ ። ኣ ሠ ኑ ፣
ወ ወ ሌ ፡ ኦ ሰ ሩ ኔ ፡ ና ፡ ሣ ያ ፡ ሩ ፡ ሌ ራ ፡ ሰ ፡ ኑ ፡ ው ዪ ፡ ሰ ሪ ሃ ር ጌ ፡ ሌ ወ ወ ። ፡ ና ኞ ፡ ና ፡
መ ሰ ፡ ኦ ሰ ሩ ኔ ፣ ሂ ሃ ሳ ወ ፡ ሃ ወ ሰ ፡ ሣ ፡ ው ሰ ሳ ፡ ኑ ግ ሪ ፡ ፡ ሃ ሰ ዘ ሠ ኑ ዋ ፊ ። ኣ ሰ ኔ ፡ ኣ ፣ ዓ ፡
ኣ ሠ ሰ ሃ ኑ ፡ ኣ ፣ ሰ ራ ፡ ኣ ፡ ኣ ፡ ሳ ፡ ው ዪ ሃ ፡ ሰ ዘ ወ ፡ ኣ ፣ ኣ ፡ ሳ ፡ ኣ ፡ ሰ ፡ ኣ ፡ ኣ ፡ ኣ

172. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 December 1896

ሞዓ፡ለግ፡ብሳ፡ዝኽ ምኑገ፡ዊ፡ዊ፡ዊ

173. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 16 January "1897"

174. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 17 January "1897"

175. Menilek II's Certificate of Order Awarded to Tschussef
Addis Ababā 24 January 1897

[illegible]

176. Negus Takla Haymanot to Alfred Ilg
Dabra Māreqos 3 February "1897"

[illegible]

177. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 17 February "1897"

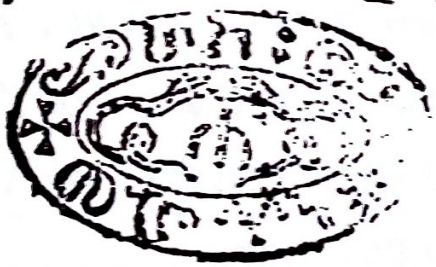
ይድረስ፡ አድግ፡ ከ ተ ወ ደ ይ ት፡ ጊ ቃ ዉ ፡ መ [redacted]፡ ደ ስ ክ፡
መ ድ ኃ ኔ፡ አ ለ ም ፡ ቡ ና ፡ ይ ሰ ጥ ል ኝ፡ ቸ ይ፡ ፲፲ ጊ ዜ ፡ እ ድ ሩ ሰ ለ ሁ ፡
ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ በ ጤ ና ፡ ሰ ን ብ ተ ዋ ል ፡ ወ ፍ [illegible] እ ዴ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ቃ መ ስ ግ
ን ፡ ይ ህ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ፡ በ ሉ ላ ሲ ፡ ፈ ቃ ድ ፡ ይ ህ ው ፡ አ ረ ር ጌ ፡ ደ ረ ሉ ን ፡
እ ራ ስ ም ፡ በ ይ ህ ና ፡ ተ ቀ በ ሉ ን ፡ በ ሁ ሉ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ አ ስ ታ ሁ ን ፡
ይ ህ ና ፡ ን ግ ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ አ ጸ ራ ፡ በ ም ኒ ር ፡ የ ሰ ጠ ሁ ም ት ን ፡ በ ሰ ማ ይ ፡
እ ቀ በ ል ሞ ታ ለ ሁ ፡ ያ ባ ቴ ን ፡ ነ ግ ር ፡ አ ጺ ራ ፡
ጊ ታ ፡ ማ ዬ ሮ ፡ እ ን ኳ ፡ ለ ር ስ ቃ ፡ ነ ው ፡ አ ያ ራ ፡ ያ ሉ ት ፡ ስ ሂ ድ ፡
አ ሁ ን ም ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ አ ኒ ን ም ፡ አ ይ ር ሱ ኝ ፡ ስ ሆ ን ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡
ደ ብ ደ ቢ ፡ ይ ላ ኩ ል ኝ ፡ የ ፈ ረ ን ጅ ን ፡ አ ገ ር ፡ ሠ ራ ት ፡ አ ና ሰ ም ፡
የ ው ቃ ሉ ና ፡ ይ ባ ቴ ን ም ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ፡ እ ያ ጨ መ ረ ፡ ብ ል ኩ ል ኝ ፡
በ ሰ ላ ሲ ም ፡ ፊ ይ ጠ ቀ ማ ሉ ፡ ስ ሚ ን ም ፡ እ ን ዳ ይ ሬ ሱ ኝ ፡
በ ወ ረ ቀ ት ፡ ይ ያ ዙ ት ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ። ⁄

በ ቀ ረ ው ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡ መ ድ ኃ ኔ ፡ አ ለ ም ፡ እ ስ ክ ን ም ፡ "ይ ህ ና ፡
ቆ ይ ተ ው ፡ እ ኒ ን ም ፡ በ ይ ህ ና ፡ ተ ር ሰ ው ፡ በ ሉ ይ ኔ ፡ ሉ ለ ም ፡
ላ መ ግ ኖ ኑ ት ፡ ይ ብ ቃ ን ፡ እ ይ ር ሱ ኝ ፡ ይ ላ ል ፡ የ መ ን ፈ ስ ፡
ቅ ዱ ስ ፡ ለ እ ም ፡ ግ ሮ ። ⁄

ሉ ጸ ፈ ፡ አ ረ ር ጌ ፡ በ የ ካ ታ ት ፡
ወ ር ፡ በ ግ ባ ፡ ፲፬ ቀ ን ።
ታ ዲ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ በ ተ ነ ሳ ን ፡ ፳፰ ቀ ን ፡
መ ሆ ኔ ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ተ ጸ ሬ ባ ት ፡

አ ረ ር ጌ ፡ የ ገ ባ ነ ው ፡ በ ፳፱ ፡ ቀ ን ፡ ነ ው ፡
ቮ ቅ ን ፡ ሙ ሎ ፡ አ ድ ር ገ ኖ ል ፡ እ መ ን ግ ድ ።

178. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
Qunni 7 March 1897



179. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
Djibouti 15 March "1897"

ይድረስ፡ ለጅግ፡ ከተወደዱ፡ ጌታዬ፡ ሙሴዬለክ፡መድኃኔ፡ ሬለም፡
ጤና፡ይስጥልኝ ፡ብዬ፡IIኝ ነፍ፡ አጅ፡ነሰለሁ፡ጊታዬ፡ ጅጉን፡ አንደምን፡
ሰንብተው፡አሌ፡መድኃኔ፡ለለም ይመስገን፡ ደህና፡ነኝ፡ ጌታዬ፡ይቅ ሀው፡
በሰላለ፡ፈቃድ፡ በርስም፡ሙታሪ፡ ጅቡቱ ግባኝ፡ ይሀው፡ ተ ድሰበባ፡ሸጥናለኝ
ዛሠርን፡ተሸ ቀ ተናችኝ፡ ጅቡቲ፡ የገባነው፡ ሰለሆነ፡ ይሀው፡እመርከብ፡ገባኝ፡
የጣሊቤው፡እር ስም፡ጋ፡እሰቱ ዲርስ፡ እኖ፡ እመስኩቱ፡እገር፡እንዲርሰለኝ፡
ሄመሰለሰ ሩ፡ለሁንም፡ጊታዬ፡እይርሱኝ፡ ዲበቱንም፡ነገር፡በርሰም፡
ኩይለሁ፡በተ ሣረ፡ ሰላሰ፡በአዲናሰላም፡ ዲገኖ ኑን፡ የእሰራኤል፡ አም
ለክ፡ ፡በዲህኖ፡ ለመግናቱ፡ ዲጣቃን፡
ቆላል፡የመንፈስ፡ቅዱስ፡ ለጅ ም፡የዲንሆይ፡እሸ ከር፡ ዘበኖው፡
ግኖ ፡
ተጸፈ፡ ጅቡቲ፡ በመጋቢት፡ ወር፡ በገባ፡ ፲ ፩ ::
ጌተዬ፡ እንግዲህ፡ ለኒ፡ ወዲሽቀ፡ ለባቲም፡ብለክ፡ ደብዲቤ፡
እር ስም፡ ነም፡ እይተቀበሉ፡ የምሰጡለኝ፡ ለሁሉም፡
ዬኒ፡ወረቀት፡ የምመጣው፡ እርሱም፡ጋ፡ው፡፡ የንግዲሁ፡፡

የኢትዮጵያ ጥናትና ምርም
INSTITUTE OF ETHIO
STUDIES

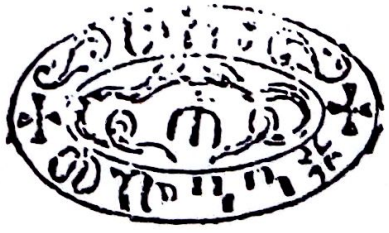
180. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 17 March "1897"

የተላከ፡ከራስ፡መኰላግ። ደጁረስ፡ከክብር፡
ወዳጂ፡ከወዱሲ፡ኢልግ። ብዙ ውግ፡እግዲት፡
ሰግብተሃል። ጤናህግስ፡እግዴ፡ምግ፡ነህ። ሚስ
ትህስ፡በጤና፡አይደለችምግ። እኔ፡እግዚአብ
ሐር፡ደረሀስግግ፡ዳሩና፡ነች። የሷህግም፡ነገር፡
ደክው፡አሳ፡መር ሽግም፡ሊሳም፡ነው። አድር
ጊ፡እስካሁግ፡ሲጠብቁ፡፩፩ እያለ፡እየተጠራ
ቀመ፡አሁግ፡የጁረሰው፡፲፩ ላጥግ፡ብቻ፡ሠነ፡
፲፪ ላጥግ፡ላደመጣ፡ሳሂለ፡አሁግም፡ይክው።
አሁግ፡የጁረሰውግ፡፲፫ ላጥግ፡በጭለሙ፡እስጭኚ፡
ታቹግ፡መግግድ፡ሰድጂ እለሁ። በኋላ፡የቀረውግ፡
፲፬ቱግ፡ላጥግ፡ላግ፡እግደጁረሰልኝ፡በጭለሙ፡እሰ
ደለሁ። እስካሁግም፡ችላ፡ደልኩና፡የሌላ፡ነገር፡እግ
ደመስልህ። መግቢት፡፱ ሂግ፡ተሳረፈ፡ቁሌበ፡ከተሰላ።

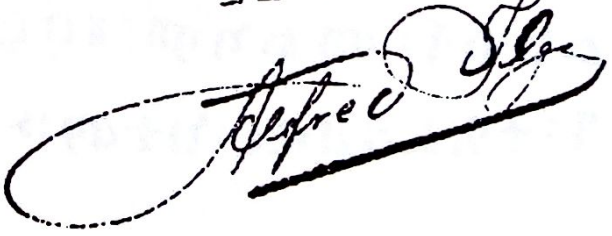
181. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 23 March "1897"

ሉ ደ ሐ ካ ፡ ቅ ፡ ፡ ዐ ፡

የተላከ፡ ከራስ፡ መኮንን፡ ደ.ቂ.ሲ፡ ከክቡር፡ወ
ዲ፮፡ ከሙሴ፡ ኤልግ፡- ብዙ ወ-ግ፡ እንዲት፡ስ
ጎብተሃል። ለኔና ህጎስ፡ እንዲ፡ ጎመጎ፡ነህ። ዛሚ
ስትህስ፡ እንዲ፡ ጎመጎ፡ነች፡ ሉጎመዲሉችግ። እኔ፡
እጎዚ እብሬር፡ደ ለመ ስግግ፡ ዲሳና፡ ነሻ፡- ጎመነው፡
ደግዌ፡ ከዚህ፡ ስትሂድ፡ ጎመጎ፡ተነጋግረግ፡ነበር።
የሁሉጎስ፡ነገር፡ ሣተልክብሻ፡ቀረህ። ዘጎሣተ
ኸው፡እንዲሁ፡ነው፡እጎ፮፡ ብዙ፡ነገር፡ተነጋግ
ረግ፡ነበር። አሁጎም፡ደህ ጎ፡ ቤቀር፡የ ዛሚ
ስትህግ፡ ሀገር፡ ለመልመ ድዋግና፡ደግተጎም፡
ዲሳግነት፡ እጎዲተልክብሻ፡ደሁግ። ያ.ግ ጎ፡
የሙሴ፡ ለግር ድግም፡ ከ፮ግሠደ፡ በዲሳና፡በ
ፍቅር፡ መግናፕተግ፡ ለክብሻ፡- ግግ፡ ሲሆ ግ፡
እንዲተነጋገርነው፡ የሁሉጎም፡ ነገር፡ ብት
ልክብሻ፡ መልካም፡ ነበር፡- መጋቢት፡ ፲፰ቀ
ግ፡ተፃፈ። ሐረር፡ነተጣ፡-



182. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 29 March "1897"



183. Yaši Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 3 April "1897"

†

ደ. ዮ ረ ሰ ፡

ከ ክ ሉ ር ፡ ጌ ታ ፡ ሙ ሴ ፡ ደ ሓ ግ ፡

ጤ ና ፡ ደ ሰ ጥ ፊ ኝ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሣ ለ ሁ ፡

ጌ ታ የ ፡ ደ ሰ መ ፡ እ ሮ ሰ ቀ ፡ ከ ሐ ረ ር ፡

ሊ ነ ሡ ፡ ወ ዲ ሽ ቀ ፡ ለ ይ ዋ ሩ ፡ ይ ግ ራ ፡

ጠ በ ገ ኛ ፡ ሰ ጠ ሁ ፡ እ ሁ ን ፡ ላ ሉ ፡ ኮ ፣ ኻ ፡ ተ ቀ በ ል ፡

ኻ ዲ ፡ ኻ ጽ ጥ ፡ ጠ ሩ ፡ ኻ ሉ ፡ መ ለ ሰ ው ፡

ጠ በ ን ኛ ዪ ም ፡ ም ል ክ ት ፡ አ ለ ው ፡ ማ ን ፡ ሲ

ነ ግ ሠ ፡ እ ን ዲ ህ ፡ ያ ለ ፡ ሥ ራ ፡ ደ ሠ ራ ል ፡

እ ር ሰ ቀ ፡ ባ ሉ በ ት ፡ ሓ ገ ር ። ። እ ሁ ን ም ፡ ደ

ዋ ሩ ን ፡ በ ደ ኝ ኑ ት ቃ ቃ ፡ ደ ጠ ደ ቁ ል ኝ ፡

የ ኔ ፡ ጠ በ ገ ኛ ፡ በ ጠ ሩ ው ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ጠ መ ሌ ያ ፡

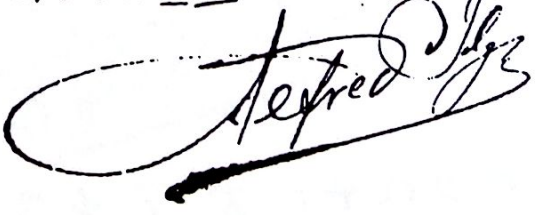
አ ደ. ሠ ን ም ፡ እ ሮ ሰ ቃ ን ፡ እ ም ፕ ፡ ነ ው ፡ እ ን ኛ ፡

የ ሰ ዲ ዱ ሁ ፡ እ ን ዲ ፡ ጠ ሩ ፡ ደ ባ ላ ል ፡

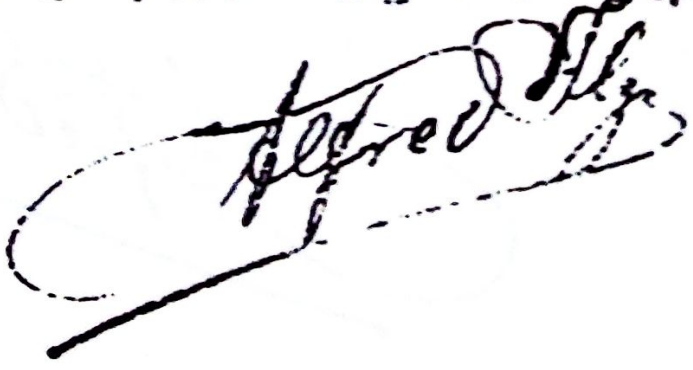
የ ሺ ፡ ሚ ካ ኤ ል ፡

መ ጋ ቢ ቶ ፡ ፭ ፮ ቀ ን ፡ ሐ ረ ር ፡ ቴ ሌ ግ ራ ፊ ፡

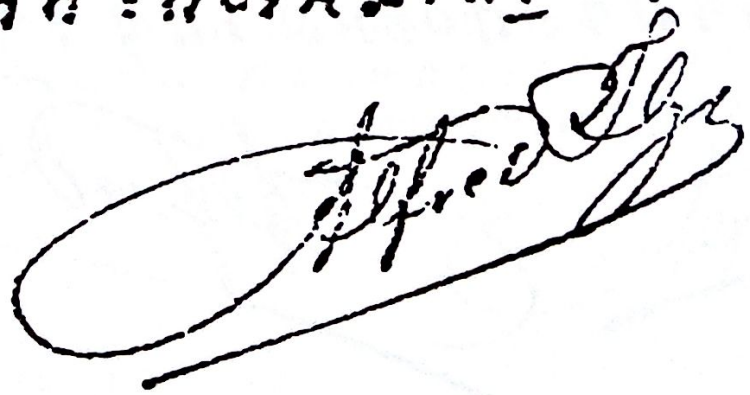
184. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 4 April "1897"



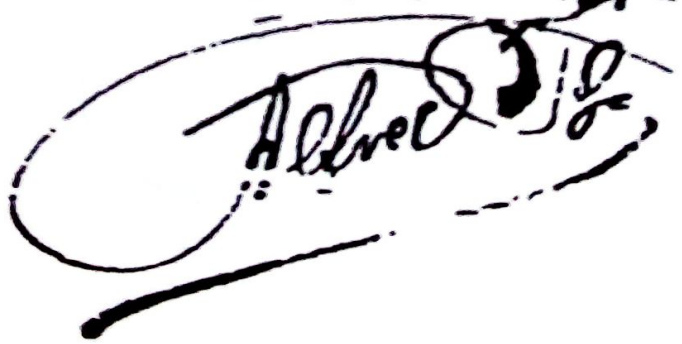
185. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 9 April "1897"



186. Alfred Ilg to Ṗāwlos
Addis Ababā 10 April "1897"



187. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 10 April "1897"



188. Ṗāwlos to Alfred Ilg
Č̣abbā 10 April 1897

189. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 11 April "1897"

የተላከ፡ ከራስ፡ መኰንን። ደቂረስ፡ ከነቡር፡ ወዲ፪፡ ከመ-
ስ፡ ኪልላ።ኦ ብዙ ውን፡ እነዲት፡ ሰጊብተላል። ጢናህን፡
እነዲ፡ ያህላ፡ነህ።ኦ እኔ፡ እጂእብረር፡ደመስግን፡ዲሳናኽ።ኦ
እታህም፡ መጥፉ፡ የቀረው፡ ፲፬ ላጥ ን፡ ደሆናል። ግን፡ ደ
ኸው-ም፡ መጥ-ፉ፡ በቅር ቡ፡ ላይገባ፡ እደ.ቀ ር ም። እን ዲደ
ረስልኝ፡ ሁሉ ን ም፡ እነ ድ፡ ለደ፡ እድ ር ኒ፡ እስጭ፡ እስደ
ለሁ።ኦ ፈ.ት፡ የወመጣ ው፡ እታ፡ ን ን፡ ሰድ፪ ው፡ እስካሁ ን፡
ባልጪ፡ ላይደ.ር ስ፡ እደ.ቀ ር ም።ኦ መሸምህን ም፡ ሰጣ
ሁ፡ እጳዚ እብረ.ር፡ የው-ነት፡ ደያ-ር ግልህ።ኦ ሰው፡ ለ ፍ-ፉ፡
ለ ፍ-ፉ፡እነ ዲህ፡ ሲሆን፡ ደስ፡ ደ ለ ል።ኦ ስልኩ ም፡ ነቁ ኒ፡
አልፍ አል። ግን፡ እን ጪ.ት፡ እን ጪ.ቱ፡ እየ ቅ መ፡ ነ ው፡ እ
ን ፪፡ የ ሄደ ው፡ ሽ ቦ ው፡ ስ ለ፡ ሲ ኔ ው፡ እ ለ፡ መ ም ጣ ት፡ ሁ
ር ቃ፡ ለ ደ.፡ ደ ር ስ፡ ቀ ር ፋ-እ ል።ኦ ከ ና ን ቱ፡ ዝ ን ድ፡ ነ ው፡ እ
ን ፪፡ ከ ኔ፡ ዝ ን ድ፡ እ ል ጎ ደ ለ ም።ኦ ሚ ስ ት ህ ን ም፡ ጢ ና
ሽን፡ እን ደ፡ ም ን፡ ነሽ፡ ብ ለ ህ፡ ጠ ይ ቅ ል ኝ።ኦ እጳዚ እብረ.
ር፡ በ ህ ደ.ወ ት፡ ለ መ ን ና ን ት፡ ደ ብ ቃ ን።ኦ ተ ዓ ረ፡ ማ ዝ ደ፡
ፏ ቀ ን። ሐ ረ ር፡ ለ ደ።ኦ

190. Mozzetti D'Elesio to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 11 April 1897

ደ ሑ ጊ ነ ፡ ከ ፋ ዐ ኅ ፡ አ ኀ ዘ ነ ስ ፡ ዝ አ ያ ነ ኀ ጺ ፡ ደ ሁ ጺ ፡ ጸ ኀ መ ፵ ፡ ሃ ዐ ኤ ፊ ነ ፡ ኀ ኮ ሠ ፡
ን ኀ ጋ ዘ ሳ ፡ ገ ሪ ት ሡ ሧ ኧ ፡ ነ ሳ ፋ ዐ ፡ ከ አ ር ሰ ኧ ፡ ጋ ር ፡ ጲ ሁ ፡ ፡ —
ወ ጊ ፡ ነ ሀ ሳ ሁ ፡ ከ ቿ ን ረ ፡ ፊ ፡ አ ፊ ነ በ ረ ፦ ሉ ኔ ፡ ነ ፡ ከ ፊ ኤ ፦ ፡ ነ ፡ ከ ፀ ወ ፡ ከ ሃ ር ኩ ፡ ኖ ፡ ፓ ስ ኪ ነ ኤ ፡ ጺ ሃ ፡ ከ ሰ ዛ ፵
ዘ ማ ኑ ኤ ፊ ነ ፡ ጋ ር ፡ ሠ ነ በ ረ ፡ ዚ ተ ኖ ው ፡ ነ ሀ ፡ ሠ ፦ ፡ ቿ ኀ ኩ ተ ፡ ፡ አ ሀ ጺ ሠ ፡ ከ ሪ ቀ ፡ ወ ፀ ኀ ኀ ነ ፡ ጋ ባ ቴ ፡
ጋ ር ፡ ነ በ ረ ፡ ፡ ጺ ኀ ፋ ዐ ፡ ቀ ር ኑ ሣ ፊ ነ ፡ ኀ ና ፡ በ አ ኀ ነ በ ረ ፡ ፡ ፊ ተ ክ ለ ፡ ሠ ላ ቹ ሠ ፡ ሠ ተ ቀ በ ሉ ፡
ጺ ኀ ጺ ፡ ኑ ኪ ነ ፡ መ ረ ፡ ነ ፡ ፱ ተ ኖ ው ፡ ቹ ነ ፡ ቿ ሙ ነ ፡ ኔ ፕ ፡ ር ኑ ኖ ው ፡ ነ ሂ ኑ ፡ ፊ ወ ፡ ቿ ፡ ታ ሙ ቀ
ሣ ፊ ነ ፡ ኀ ና ፡ በ አ ኀ ነ በ ረ ፡ ፡ አ ኀ ጺ ለ ፡ ወ ፶ ሃ ዐ ፡ በ ዙ ሪ ሃ ሣ ፡ ፡ — ፶ መ ነ ለ ር ኖ ፊ ነ ፡ ከ ነ ዚ ህ ፡
ፃ ተ ነ መ ፡ ወ ታ ጺ ሮ ኑ ፡ አ ኀ ጺ ኀ ጺ ፡ ጠ ጺ ፡ ኢ ጠ ፊ ነ ፡ ፡ ሠ ሀ ሀ ለ ነ ፡ ፡ ሃ መ ፶ ፱ ራ ቅ ኒ ፡ ፶ ኖ
ረ ሑ ቹ ሣ ፊ ነ ፡ ፡ — ኀ ኀ ፡ ቿ ኀ ሆ ፶ ፡ በ ጣ ኹ ፡ ኻ ፊ ነ ጺ ፡ ቿ ቹ ው ፡ ፐ ተ ቀ ረ ፡ ቢ ተ ፡ ነ ሦ ቻ
ቹ ው ፡ ሰ ሕ ፶ ወ ታ ቹ ወ ፡ ፡ አ ነ ጺ ሉ ፡ ፶ ወ ፦ ቻ ረ ኑ ፡ ፡ ወ ጺ ፡ ኢ ወ ፊ ፱ ፡ ሀ ፀ ኀ ጣ ኃ ሀ ት ፡
ሄ ጺ ው ፡ ፶ ርሮ ሃ ሉ ፡ አ ኀ ጺ መ ለ ነ ፡ ሰ ቻ ወ ፡ ፶ ፬ ፡ ፊ ነ ጋ ሉ ፡ ፡ ገ ፡ አ ነ ፋ ዐ ና ነ ሁ ፡ ነ ፡ ቿ ኀ ሆ ፶ ፡
ከ ሉ ሰ ት ፡ ነ ፍ ረ ፡ በ ጠ ፋ ዐ ፡ አ ነ ፬ ፡ ሰ ፊ ነ ው ፡ ፡ ወ ጺ ዚ ህ ፡ አ ኀ ጺ ነ ጺ ኑ ቿ ው ፡ ፡
አ ኀ ጺ ን ት ፡ ፋ ዐ ና ፊ ነ ቻ ፡ ፡ ነ ፡ መ ፵ ቹ ው ፡ ፡ ቢ ሀ ፵ ነ ጠ ፡ ቻ ቹ ው ፡ አ ኀ ጺ ኀ ጺ ኑ ፡ አ ኀ ጺ ኀ ሉ ፡
ጺ ኀ ፋ ዐ ፡ በ ቅ ለ ፦ ኑ ፡ ኤ ሪ ፶ ፡ ፡ ቢ ወ ሚ ሃ ነ ፬ ፡ ፬ ፡ ቻ ፡ ፡ ኀ ር ፡ ሆ ፡ ሉ ፡ ኻ ነ ጠ ፡ ፊ ቻ ፡
ሣ ጋ ወ ፡ ኀ ፡ ከ ዚ ህ ፡ አ ፬ ፡ ኤ ከ ፉ ሳ ፊ ሀ ፡ ፡ — አ ፬ ፋ ዐ ፡ ከ ቿ ኀ ሠ ፶ ፡ ፐ ኀ ኩ ፡ ፱ ፋ ዐ ሓ ሹ ፡
ጺ ኀ ፡ ዘ ሱ ፡ ፱ ኢ ጠ ፊ ነ ፶ ኀ ፡ ሀ ፀ ኀ ጣ ኃ ሠ ሀ ፡ ፡
ጎ ፕ ታ ኀ ፡ ሐ ኳ ፋ ዐ ፡ ኻ ፣ ኻ ፣ ፴ ፡ ፡ ፬ ፡ ዘ ሀ ፡ ፡ መ ፡ ዝ ሱ ፡ ፱ ኢ ጠ ፊ ነ ፶ ኀ ፡ ሀ ፀ ኀ ጣ ኃ ሠ
ት ፡ ወ ጊ ፊ ነ ፡ ፋ ዐ ር ነ ኻ ፕ ፡ ተ ቀ በ ፶ ፡ በ ፋ ረ ር ኀ ፡ ፡ —
ተ ሃ ጺ ፡ ሐ ረ ር ኀ ፡ ፶ ፡ ፴ ዲ ፶ ዝ ፶ ፡ ፲ ፲ ፱ ፵ ፱ ፡ ፡ — አ ለ ዐ ተ ፡ ፋ ሀ ሐ ረ ት ፡ ፡ —

Mozzetti D'Elesio

191. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 22 April "1897"

የተላከ፡ ከራስ፡ መኰንን፡ ደጅ፡ዝማች፡
ከከቡር፡ ወዳጄ፡ ከሙሴ፡ኢል
ግ። እግዜት፡ሰግቶ፡ተሳል። ጢና
ህግስ፡እንደ፡ምን፡ነህ፡ኑ፡እኔ፡እግ
ዜአብሔር፡ደመስግን፡ደኅና፡
ሣች፡ የላከው ም፡ደብዳቤ፡ዲረስ
ልኝ። ሞርዳሌ፡ሳደ፡ኔቃ፡የጠፋ
ቤትም፡ከሽከርህን፡ሮማን፡እዘ
ደው፡እግዜደስፈላልጉ ለት፡ከም
ኒስተር፡ለንርድ፡ንሬ፡ሰደድኩት።
ለሚስትህም፡ሰላምታ፡ንገር ልኝ።
ተሳሬ፡ማዝያ፡ነይ ቀን፡ሐረር።

192. Diplôme du Prince Bismarck
Addis Ababā 5 June 1897

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Diplôme du Prince Bismarck.

ምቁ ፡ ቅን ፡፡ ። . . . . . ፡፡

ይህንን ፡ ደ-ለ ይቤ ፡ ሰ ላ ደ ፡ ሥ ል ጭ ፡ ሰ ፡፡ ፡ ሰ ላ ደ ስ ት ፡ ን ፡ ሳ ስ ጠ ለ ሁ ።
በ ላ ኤ ም ር ኣ ቸ ው ና ፡ በ ው ቀ ፡፡ ቸ ው ፡ በ ጉ ል በ ታ ቸ ው ና ፡ በ ዛ ፊ ሀ ታ ቸ ው ፡ የ ከ በ ረ ፡
ነ ግ ሥ ታ ት ፡ አ ር በ ኞ ታ ቸ ው ን ና ፡ ዋ ኖ ታ ቸ ው ን ፡ አ ግ ፊ ኃ ዮ ታ ቸ ው ን ም ፡ እ ን
ደ ሚ ለ ው ፡ ኡ ኖ ታ ፡ ወ ደ ን ን ፡ በ ሙ ሉ ፡ ት ፊ ል ት ፡ ሥ ራ ው ፡ ቀ ለ ሙ ን ፡
ሁ ሉ ፡ ደ በ ፉ ፡ የ ሮ ቱ ፡ ት ፊ ኣ ት ፡ ኑ ግ ሥ ታ ት ፡ የ ሚ ሰ ኑ ፡ ኣ ባ ላ ት ፡ ሠ ራ ው ፡ ሰ ለ
መ ረ ት ፡ ለ ሰ ው ፡ ፍ ጥ ረ ት ፡ ፡ ሰ ላ ሰ ፡ ዘ ን ፡ ሩ ሥ ሩ ን ፡ መ ል ካ ም ፡ ሥ ራ ፡ ሰ ለ
ወ ቀ ች ለ ት ፡ ጥ ረ ን ስ ፡ ቢ ሉ ማ ር ክ ን ፡ በ ከ በ ረ ሁ ፡ የ መ ን ግ ሥ ታ ች ን ፡ የ ኢ
ሞ ው ጅ ደ ፡ የ መ ጣ መ ር ደ ፡ ኩ ክ ሰ ፡ ን ሻ ናች ን ፡ ሸ ለ መ ና ቸ ው ል ። ይህ ን ን ም ፡
የ ን ሻ ን ፡ ሽ ፡ ፡ ፡

193. Menilek II to Count Leontiev
Addis Ababā 9 June 1897

ሞአ ፡ አጓበሳ፡ . . . . . .
ደዩረስ ፡ ከአንቱ ፡ ሌዎንቴፍ ፡ ሳላም ፡ ላንተ ፡
ክሁን ። አስከዘረ ፡ ዩረስ ፡ ሰፌ ፡ መጀመሪያ ፡
በወዲሽ ፡ ማንልየልክን ፡ ሰሰ ፡ አወሁ ፡
አሁን ፡ የሱኔጋንርፋው ፡ ጉደይ ፡ ፈጽመህ ፡
ልቁመለት ፡ ወሬ ፡ ሉሌን ፡ አደረህ ፡ አጓደ ፡
አገር ፡ አዋደ ፡ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሠራው ፡ ለምታው
ሃው ፡ ደር ፡ አገር ፡ ወቅሳሌ ፡ ዴርጌ ፡ አን
ሽሽምኩህ ፡ ሬቻይ ፡ መሆኗ ፡ በዚህ ፡ ደህ
ጂስ ፡ አስታውቅሃለሁ ። ክሣራህ ጉያ ፡ ፊመ
ክፈል ፡ አስክ ፡ አምስት ፡ ዓመቅ ፡ ዩረስ ፡
ናጁኑ ፡ አሳራጥሃለን ። አዘደ ፡ በኋላ ፡ ግን ፡
ሰፍያው ፡ ባቀናኸው ፡ አገር ፡ ወሰን ፡ መሪሱም ፡
ብርም ፡ የዘወን ፡ ፕርስስም ፡ ሱፕም ፡ ሊግኙ ፡
ግጉይ ፡ አገረ ፡ የመንግሥቴ ፡ ወሰኔን ፡
አንደርሊግወረ ፡ ስጥፉራለህ ። ይህም ፡ የም
ሽፍን ፡ ደር ፡ አገር ፡ በኢትዮጵያ ፡ ይ በመ ፡
ደኩል ፡ ይሆናል ። በሰፌ ፡ ሰንደቅ ፡ በ[illegible]
ሚደወሱ ፡ ሥልጣኖ ፡ ባደስ ፡ ኡሰባ ፡ አጭማ ፡
ሚሽን ይ ።

194. Menilek II's Decree of Appointment
Addis Ababā 9 June 1897

Copie de l'original de la lettre de l'Empereur

ሞዓ ፡ አንበሳ ፡ . . . . . .

ደጅ ፡ ዝረስ ፡ ከ ኮንት ፡ ሌ ም ን ቺ ር ። ሰላም ፡ ፈንቱ ፡ ይሁን ።
ኤስካዛሬ ፡ ጅረስ ፡ ለኔ ፡ መን ግሥት ፡ በመኺኒኒት ፡ ማ ግ ልግልክን ፡
ለ ለ ፡ አ መ ኮሁ ኣ ሁን ፡ የቸ ን ጋግ ር ፣ ሙ ን ፡ ኑ ሂ ይ ፡ ፈጽ መህ ፡ ለት
መ ለ ስ ። በ ኔ ፡ ለ ሌ ነት ፡ ከ ቪ ረህ ፡ ኣ ን ዲ ኔ ፡ አ ግ ር ፡ አ ን ይ ፡ ኪ ት የ
ጅ ደ ፡ ሥ ራ ት ፡ ለ ም ታ ሥ ና ው ፡ ደ ር ፡ አ ግ ር ፡ ጠ ቅ ላ ይ ፡ ከ ጅ ር ጌ ፡
አ ን ይ ቸ ም ከ ህ ፡ ፌ ቃ ይ ፡ መ ሠ ሩ ን ፡ በ ዚ ህ ፡ ይ ዘ ዘ ቤ ፡ አ ስ ታ ው
ቅ ላ ለ ሁ ። ክ ሣ ራ ህ ን ም ፡ ለ መ ክ ፌ ል ፡ ኣ ስ ክ ፡ አ ም ስ ት ፡ ቁ መት ፡
ጅ ረ ስ ፡ ፃ ፃ ኑ ት ፡ አ ን ሰ ጥ ሃ ለ ን ። ከ ዚ ያ ፡ በ ኋ ላ ፡ ግ ን ፡ በ ዝ ያው ፡
በ ቀ ና ኝ ነ ው ፡ ኣ ገ ር ፡ ወ ስ ኖ ፡ ሠ ር ቅ ም ፡ ፡ በ ር ም ፡ የ ዘ ሠ ን ፡ ጥ ር ስ ም ፡
ቡ ን ም ፡ ቢ ግ ኑ ፡ አ ን ች ህ ፡ አ ግ ሬ ፡ የ መ ን ግ ሥ ቱ ፡ መ ኪ ን ት ፡
ኤ ን ይ ጥ ግ በ ኑ ፡ ት ግ ብ ሉ ለ ህ ። ይ ህ ም ፡ የ ም ሰ ጥ ህ ፡ ሄ ር ፡ አ ግ ር ፡
በ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፡ ይ በ ል ፡ በ ጉ ል ፡ ይ ሆ ን ል ። በ ሰ ኑ ፡ በ ፫ ቀ ን ፡
ፍ ፲ ፱ ፱ ፹ ፱ ዓ መ ሕ ፡ ግ ስ ት ፡ ቀ ን ፡ ጉ ን ሌ ፡ ኑ ገ ሥ ፡ ካ ዘ መ ነ ፡ ዓ መ ፡ ጌ ።

Pour copie conforme

17/VIII 1897.
Addis Abeba.

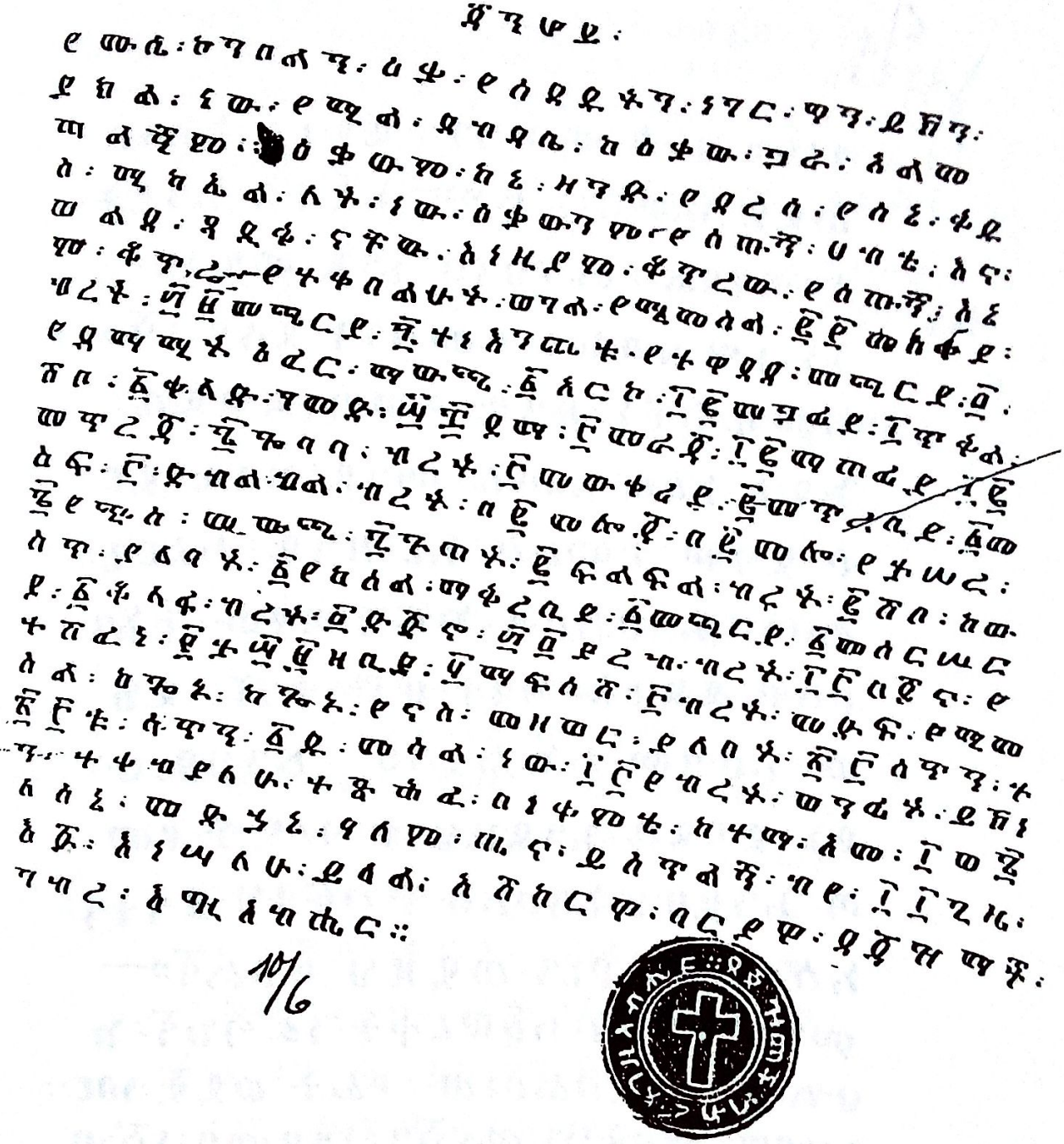
195. James Rennell Rodd to Menilek II
Zeila 14 June 1897

ደጁሬስ፡ለዲግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ንጉሠ፡
ነግሠኦ፡ዘኢትዮጵያ፡፡
ሰላም፡ለእርሰዎ፡ይሁን፡፡
እግዚአብሔር፡ይመስገን፡መልካም፡ጉዞኦ
ትጉዘን፡ዘይላክዄህና፡ዩረስነ፡፡ ሐረር፡ገ፡ላይ፡
አምስገኦ፡ቀን፡ውሎ፡አዬረግነ፡ ከዚያም፡ከሬስ፡
መኰነን፡ጋራ፡የማዬርግው፡ብዙ፡ስራ፡አግኝሁ፡
እራስ፡አያልነግር፡ፈለጉ፡እኔ፡እኦው፡አለሁ፡
ብዬ፡ካሰብሁኦ፡ይበልጥ፡ዩራ፡ግን፡እኔ፡ከጅዩ፡
አለሁ፡ለሐገሬ፡ለእንግሊዝ፡መንግሥኦ፡ለማሰ
ረዬኦ፡እኛ፡በትዋልንበኦ፡ውል፡ኣነዬስማሙ፡
በሐገሮቻችን፡ሰላምናነጸጥታ፡እነዬሠን፡፡
በዚህ፡ዎ፡አልጠራጠርበኦም፡ይሠንልኛል፡እላለሁ፡
ዲግማም፡ኦስፋ፡አዬርግ፡አለሁ፡እኔ፡ከኸን
ሠይ፡መኦያዬ፡ቴ፡ለሁለታችን፡መንግስኦ፡ሁሉ፡
ጥቅም፡ይሠናል፡ብዬ፡፡
ዲግማኛም፡ኸንሠይን፡አመሰግን፡አለሁ፡አዬሰ
አዘግ፡ባይ፡ስላ፡አሄረጉልን፡ኦለኽ፡መስኦንግ
ዬ፡፡ ኣግዚአብሔር፡የኸንሠይን፡እኸሚ፡ያ
ርዝም፡ለሐገርኽም፡ሰላምና፡ጥጋብ፡ይስጥ፡፡

James Rennell Rodd

ኦባክ፡ከኛ፡ምስ፡ሬነል፡ርዬ፡የኣን፡ግሊዝ፡
መንግሥኦ፡መልእክኦኛ፡ ኦጹሕፈ፡በዘይላ፡ከኦማ
አመ፡፫፡ለሰኔ፡፲፰፻፺፯፡፡

196. Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr Moradā to Menilek II
Naqqamtē 22 June "1897"



ክቡ ዝ ሦ ይ ፡

የ ሙሴ ፡ ኩ ግ በ ል ግ ፡ ሰ ላ ፡ የ ሰ ደ ይ ኡ ግ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ዋ ግ ፡ ይ ክ ግ ፡
ይ ክ ል ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ሚ ል ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ሴ ፡ ከ ዕ ፅ ው ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ጸ ለ መ
ጠ ለ ቻ ይ ሀ ፡ ። ዕ ፅ ው ሃ ፡ ከ ፪ ፡ ዞ ግ ይ ፡ የ ደ ረ ሰ ፡ የ ሰ ፪ ፡ ቀ ይ
ስ ፡ ሚ ከ ኤ ል ፡ ለ ኡ ፡ ነ ው ፡ ሰ ፅ ው ግ ሞ ፡ የ ሰ ጠ ኝ ፡ ሀ ብ ቴ ፡ ስ ና ፡
መ ል ደ ፡ ጻ ደ ቂ ፡ ና ቸ ው ፡ ስ ፩ ዚ ያ ሞ ፡ ቁ ጥ ሬ ው ፡ የ ሰ ጠ ኝ ፡ ስ ፪
ሞ ፡ ቸ ግ ፡ ፫ ሆ ሰ ል ሁ ኡ ፡ መ ላ ፡ ዘ መ ዳ ስ ል ፡ ይ ይ መ ለ ክ ይ ፡
ዝ ር ኡ ፡ ሀ ይ ዘ መ ጫ ር ይ ፡ ኀ ኑ ፩ ስ ግ ጨ ቱ ፡ የ ኑ ሃ ደ ይ ፡ ። መ ጫ ር ይ ፡ ። ፡
የ ደ ግ ሚ ኡ ስ ፅ ሮ ር ፡ ሚ ው ጫ ፡ ይ ስ ር ስ ፡ ፣ ይ ፪ መ ጃ ፈ ይ ፡ ፣ ኡ ሞ ቱ ል ፡
ሽ ስ ፡ ይ ቁ ለ ጽ ፡ ፣ መ ጽ ፡ ሰ ፲ ኀ ፡ ፡ ይ መ ራ ሃ ፡ ፣ ይ ፪ መ ጠ ፈ ይ ፡ ፣ ኡ ሞ ቱ ል ፡
መ ሞ ረ ሃ ፡ ኀ ኈ ላ ባ ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ፣ ይ መ ው ቀ ረ ይ ፡ ፣ ፪ መ ሰ ፈ ይ ፡ ፣ ፪ መ
ስ ፍ ፡ ፣ ኵ ዝ ለ ዝ ለ ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ስ ፪ መ ሉ ፡ ፣ ስ ፲ መ ሉ ፡ የ ኡ ሠ ረ ፡
ኀ ፪ የ ሚ ስ ፡ ሠ ው ጫ ፡ ኀ ኈ ጠ ኡ ፡ ፪ ፍ ል ፍ ል ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ፪ ሽ ስ ፡ ከ ው
ስ ኈ ፡ ይ ፊ ላ ኡ ፡ ፪ ይ ከ ሰ ል ፡ መ ቀ ረ ሲ ይ ፡ ፪ መ ጫ ር ይ ፡ ፪ መ ሰ ር ሠ ር
ይ ፡ ፪ ኈ ለ ፋ ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ፬ ይ ኈ ር ፡ ፬ ፲ ይ ረ ዝ ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ፲ ፫ ስ ፡ ይ ክ ፣
ኡ ሽ ፈ ነ ፡ ፪ ኡ ፬ ፬ ዘ ሲ ይ ፡ ፲ ሚ ኈ ሰ ሽ ፡ ፲ ፫ ፡ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ ፲ ፫ ስ ፡ ፪ ኡ ፡
ስ ል ፡ ከ ኈ ኡ ፡ ከ ኈ ኡ ፡ የ ና ስ ፡ መ ዘ መ ር ፡ ይ ለ በ ኡ ፡ ፫ ፲ ስ ኈ ፣ ኡ
፫ ፲ ኡ ፡ ሰ ኈ ኈ ፡ ፪ ይ ፡ መ ሰ ል ፡ ነ ው ፡ ፲ ፫ የ ዝ ረ ኡ ፡ መ ኈ ፈ ኡ ፡ ፪ ክ ፣
ኡ ሉ ዝ ይ ለ ሁ ፡ ኡ ጽ ኈ ፈ ፡ ስ ነ ሃ መ ቴ ፡ ከ ኡ ሚ ፡ ል መ ፡ ፲ መ ፡ ፲ ፫ ኪ ዘ ፡
ስ ሰ ደ ፡ መ ፪ ኃ ደ ፡ ፃ ለ የ ፡ ሠ ፡ ና ፡ ይ ለ ኈ ል ኝ ፡ ዝ የ ፡ ፲ ፲ ኪ ዘ ፡
ስ ፫ ፡ ል ነ ሠ ላ ሁ ፡ ይ ፊ ል ፡ ለ ሽ ከ ር ኈ ፡ ስ ር ይ ኈ ፡ ፬ ፫ ኈ ፡ ፬ ፫ ኈ
ኀ ዝ ረ ፡ ል ሚ ለ ዝ ሰ ር ።

10/6

የኢትዮጵያ ጥናትና ምርምር
INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPA
STUDIES
የውጭ አገር ቋንቋዎች
FOREIGN LANGUAGES

197. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
"Qullubbi" 23 June "1897"

ዮተላከ፡ከራስ፡መኰንን፡፡ ደጅ፲ለስ፡ከክቡር፡
ወዲኺ፡ከሙሴ፡ኒልማ፡— እኺ፣ን፡እነዲት፡
ሰላ፡በተሳል፡፡ ወኒ፡ናህነስ፡እንዲ፡ምላ፡ነህ፡፡
እኔ፡እኳ፡እብሔር፡ደመስገን፡ደሳና፡ነኝ፡—
ከሙሴ፡ሽፍኔ፡ዘንድ፡የመጣ፡ዲበደቢ፡
እዲስ፡አበባ፡እመሴ፡ለማንደ፡ዘንድ፡ደር
ስ፡ደላም፡ተመልስ፡እኔ፡ዘንዲ፡ሐ፲ር፲ር፲
መጣ፡፡ አንቦለቡ፡ኻ፣ፍቹ፡ባየው፡ፇ፩አን
ቦለብ፡ደጅ፲ስ፡ካላት፡ሠም፡ተገኘ፡፡ ደኽ
ው፡አሀ፡ን፡ም፡ልክ፡ልላለሁ፡፡ ለላ፣ዲሁ፡
የኔ፡ደ፡በዲቢ፡እንዲዚህ፡ተሣለ፲፡የመ
ጣ፡አንዲሆኔ፡አንቦለቡ፡ነፍተህ፡ደግ፡ን፡
አሰሣር፡ተህ፡የኔን፡ወዲዚህ፡ላክልኝ፡—
ምነው፡አንተስ፡ካፇወረሳት፡ነፈ፣ንክኝ፡ክ
ሁሉም፡የሚበልጠው፡የፈት፡ወደኺ፡ነበር፡፡
አሀ፣ም፡ሚስትህን፡ሌናሽን፡እንዲምላ፡ነሽ፡ብ
ለህ፡ጠይቅልኝ፡፡ ተዓፈ፡ለኔ፡ፇኺላ፡—

198. S. Harrington to Menilek II
Zeila 28 June 1897

ይህን፡ ለዎን፡ ኑነን፡ ሐረን፡ ን፡ ዐዘይ፡ ን ።
ለለወል፡ ሄንሆዬ፡ ፄግሜ፡መለሊክ፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሠ፡ዘኢትዮ ።
ደረሰች፡ ያን፡ ጽፈ፡ው፡ ሄንሆዬ፡ እንደፈለጉ፡ሃ፡ሊነሰጡ፡
እኔም፡ ብዙ፡ ደነሰለች፡ ነለ፡ ዲ፡ ለነ፡ብው፡ ሄንሆዬ ።
ልዑል፡ መ፡ነ፡ ኢ፡ ገ፡ ዐርነው፡ ሄንሆይም፡ነለኔ፡ ጻፈ፡ ን፡
ሄንሆዬ፡ እንደሚ፡ቱ፡ ች፡ ለ፡ ን፡ ል፡ ነ፡ ው ።
ስለዚህ፡ ሽፈልጋለሁ፡ እሆን፡ ን፡ ዛ፡ ዝ፡ ዐር፡ ነው፡ ሄንሆዬ፡
ነለ፡ ማዩ፡ ን፡ ም፡ ዘ፡ ወር፡ ሃ፡ ር ፡ ዐሚ፡ መጣው ፡ ነለ፡ መ፡ ሂ፡ ል፡

እግረ፡ብ፡ሌ፡ር ፡ እ፡ ዮ፡ ሜ፡ና ፡ ጌ፡ና ፡ ዊ፡ ነ፡ ጥ፡ው ፡ ሄ፡ ን፡ ሆ፡ ዬ ፡

Harrington

ን፡ ጻ፡ ፈ ፡ ነ፡ ዘ፡ ዐ፡ ላ፡ በ፡ ሸ፡ ፪ ፡ ነ፡ ነ ። ፲፰፻፺፱

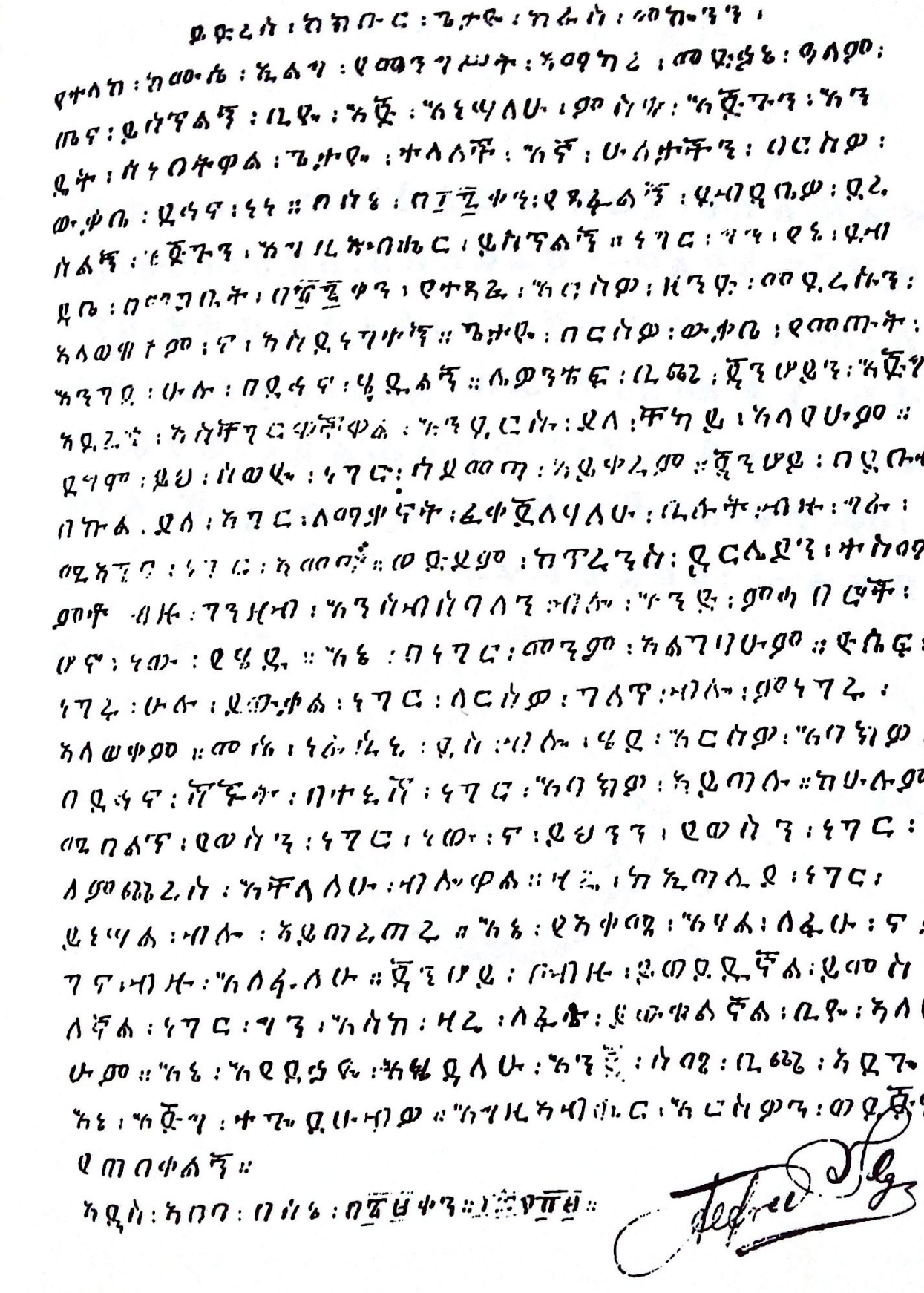
199. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 28 June "1897"

የተላክ፡ ከራስ፡ መኰንን ። ደጁ ረስ፡ ክክቡ ር፡
ወዲጂ፡ ከሙ ስ፡ ኤ ል ላ ። ብዙ ው ን፡ እ ጓ ዲ ት፡
ስ ን ተ ላ ል ። ጢ ና ህ ን ስ፡ እ ን ዲ፡ ም ን፡ ነ ህ ።
እ ኔ፡ ነ ፈ ኑ ብ ሬ ር፡ ይ መ ስ ገ ን ፡ ዲ ላ ና፡ ነ ኝ ።
ይ ኽ ው ፡ ከ በ ረ ር ፡ የ መ ጣ ል ህ ን ፡ ዲ ብ ዲ ቤ ፡
ለ ኪ ል ላ ለ ሁ ። እ ኔ፡ ላ ን ፡ ሰ ር ክ ፡ እ ለ ክ ብ
ላ ለ ሁ ። መ ቼ ም ፡ እ ን ተ ፡ ም ላ ሹ ን ፡ እ ት ል ክ
ብ ኝ ። ለ ሚ ስ ት ህ ም ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ ን ን ር ል ኝ ።—
በ ሰ ኔ ፡ በ ፮ ፪ ቀ ን ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ። ቁ ለ ቢ ፡ ክ ተ ማ ።

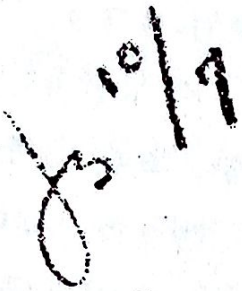
200. Alfred Ilg to Abbā Ǧefār
Addis Ababā 1 July "1897"

ዐዉላከ ፡ ነ መ ሥ ፈ ፡ ኢ ሐ ፃ ፡ ዘ ወ ጎ ግ ሠ ፡ ኣ ሰ ፃ ፡ ኣ ሰ ፈ ፡
ይ ሁ ፈ ለ ፡ ነ ነ ገ ሥ ፡ ፡ ኅ ጉ ሥ ፡ ኣ ለ ፡ ኺ ፈ ር ፡
ኣ ኺ ጉ ጎ ፡ ኣ ጎ ዲ ሎ ፡ ሰ ኑ ለ ዛ ፡ ሃ ፈ ፡ ኣ ፃ ዘ ኣ ሠ ሰ ፈ ር ፡
ይ ወ ለ ግ ጎ ፡ ዲ ኅ ሃ ፡ ኅ ኝ ። ዘ ላ ከ ሐ ኝ ፡ መ ታ ሂ ፡
ሶ ስ ት ፡ ወ ሃ ት ፡ ዘ ዘ ሠ ጎ ፡ ጥ ር ስ ፡ ዲ ፈ ስ ል ኝ ፡
ኣ ፃ ዚ ኣ ሠ ሰ ፈ ር ፡ ይ ስ ጥ ል ኝ ። ሄ ኸ ፕ ር ዋ ፡ ኣ ጎ ዲ ፡
ጋ ራ ዲ ፡ ፈ ሳ ጉ ኤ ኝ ፡ ሠ ለ ዋ ል ፡ ነ ሐ ለ ኝ ፡ በ ር ሱ ፡
ኣ ኺ ፡ ለ መ ል ካ ያ ሞ ፡ ጊ ራ ዲ ፡ ል ክ ዘ ሰ ዋ ለ ሀ ፡ ሉ ሣ
በ ለ ሁ ። ኣ ሠ ጎ ግ ፡ ዲ ግ ሳ ሞ ፡ ወ ሂ ፡ ኣ ፈ ፡ ይ ዘ ያ መ ፡ ተ ሉ ፡
ኣ ለ ሁ ኝ ፡ ነ ፃ ዚ ኣ ሠ ሰ ሐ ር ፡ በ ዲ ሳ ፡ ኛ ፡ ደ ግ ግ ዋ ፡ ና ፡
በ ዲ ሳ ና ፡ ይ ሠ ዐ ለ ስ ወ ። መ ና ፍ ሰ ግ ሉ ፡ የ ማ ሠ ለ ፡
ቅ ዲ ፡ ደ ግ ኙ ፡ ሄ ጎ ኒ ፡ ሆ ኑ ፡ ኣ ዲ ራ ዋ ነ ፡ ጌ ታ ዬ ፡
ኣ ይ ራ ሱ ኝ ፡ ሄ ኔ ሃ ዐ ፡ ኣ ፈ ራ ሳ ዋ ሃ ዐ ።
በ ሂ ሳ ፡ ኣ በ ግ ፡ ክ ሉ ሀ ፡ ነ ሠ ኔ ፡ ነ ሺ ፭ ሱ ነ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ።

201. Alfred Ilg To Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 5 July 1897

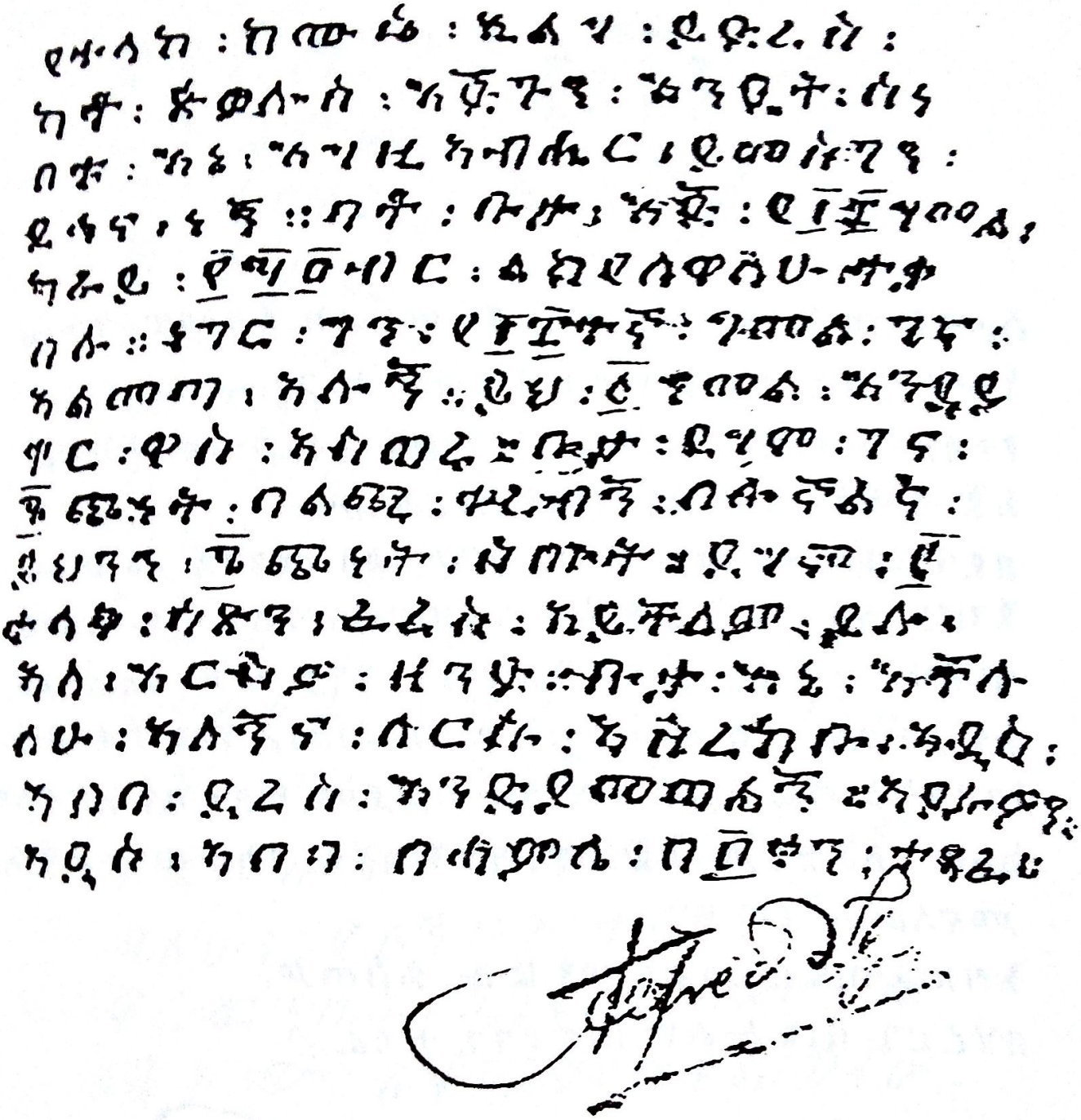


202. Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē to Alfred Ilg
"Addis Ababā 10 July 1897"



ወዲ ላይ፡ከ ራሰ፡ዲር ጊ፡ፀ ድረ ሰ፡ለ መ.ሲ፡ፈ ቃ፡እ ግዚ.ሃ፡ው ሰላ ሴ፡፡— ባ ልዲረ ባ ህ፡ከ ዚህ፡ከቢ ቲ፡ቋ ረ ሰ፡መ ጥ ታ፡ጠ ዲ ቃ ች፡እ ኔ፡ሰ ላ ሰ ጠ ፀ ቆ ት፡ሰ፡ ወ ሉ ኡ፡እ ያ መ መ ች፡ል ቢ፡እ የ ጠ ሩ ይ ፈ ሁ ን ም፡ ል ደ ን፡መ ላ ዲ ሬ ያ ፡ፀ ሁ ን፡ይ̄ ራ ሬ ዲ ና፡ይ̄ የ ጉ የ ል ፡መ ክ ት፡ሰ ድ ሺ ለ ለ ሁ ፡፡ ለ ሷ ፡ደ ው ፡እ ን ቺ፡ ላ ን ሳ፡ ኤ ፀ ዲ ለ ም ፡የ ሰ ዲ ድ ኡ ት ፡፡—

203. Alfred Ilg to Ṗāwlos
Addis Ababā 10 July "1897"



Documents

204. Cesare Nerazzini to Menilek II
Ḥarar 12 July 1897

ለሥዩመ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ሐፂ፡ምኒልክ፡ዳግማዊ፡ንጉሠ
ነግሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ወዘበሐውርተ፡ጋላ።—

የተላክ፡ከማጅ፡ነራዚኒ።—ከጂንሆይ፡ሬት፡በጣዙ፡እንጠር፡
እድ፡ነሥቼ፡ጣዙ፡ሰላምታ፡አቀር፡ባለሁ።—

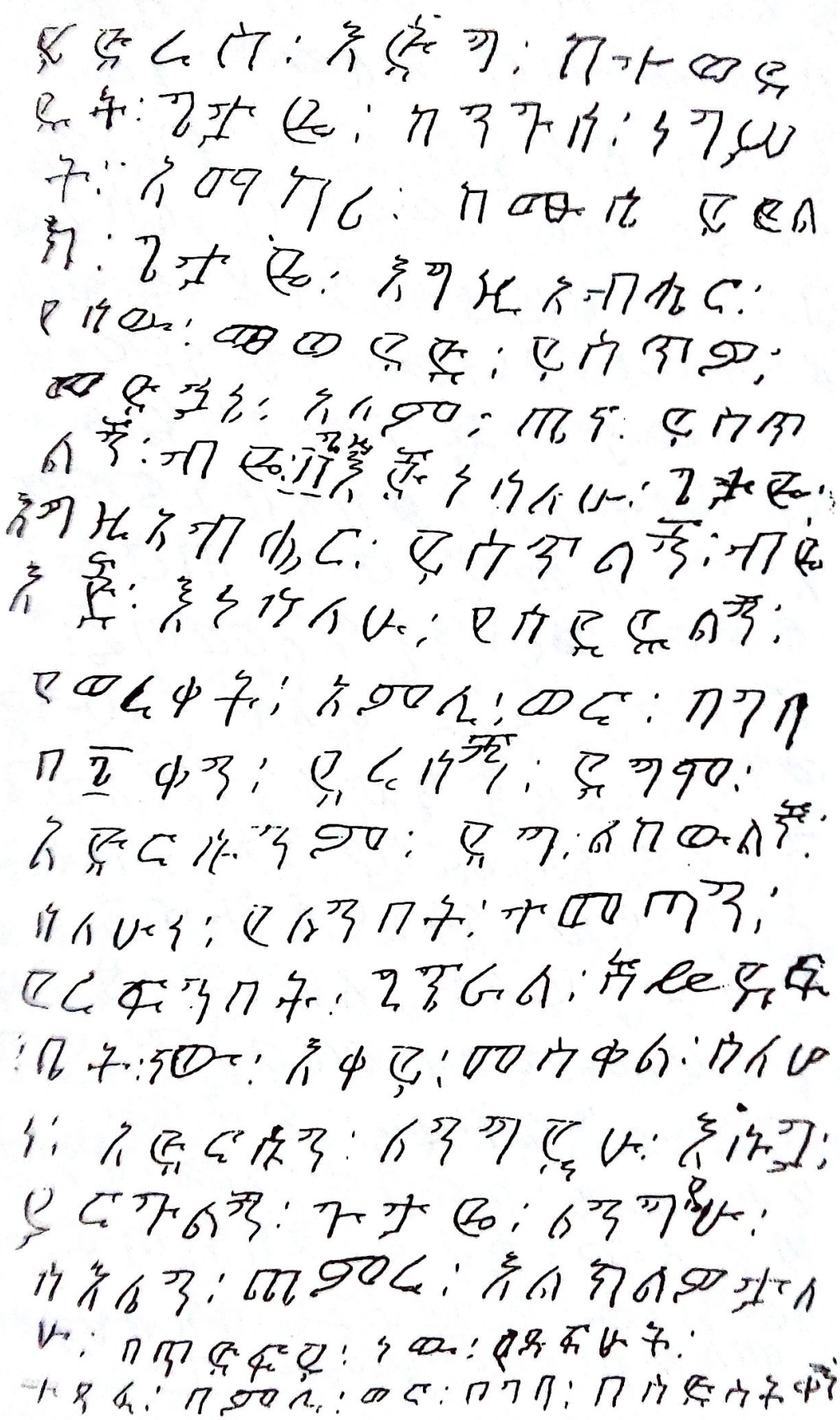
በደሳና፡በ፲፪ ቀን፡ወደ፡ሃረር፡ገባሁ።ስለ፡መንገዱ፡ምን፡ሁሉ፡
ጂንሆይ፡ስለ፡ረዱኝ፡ረድኤት፡እግዜር፡ይስጥልኝ፡ጣዩ፡አመሰ
ግናለሁ።። እቶ፡ፃውሎስና፡ግራዝማች፡ባንቲ፡ጣዙ፡መልካም፡
አዬረጉልኝ።ራስ፡መኩንን፡ከቁልቢ፡በመልካም፡ተቀበሉኝ፡
ነገበስት፡ያ፡ወደ፡ዘይላ፡እነሣለሁ።ከዝያም፡ደበደቤን፡እጅፍለወ
አለሁ።። ለእቴጌም፡እድ፡መንሣቴን፡አንዲ፡ያስታውቁልኝ፡እለ
ምናለሁ።—

እግዚአብሔር፡ወመልካምን፡ሁሉ፡ይሸጠው።

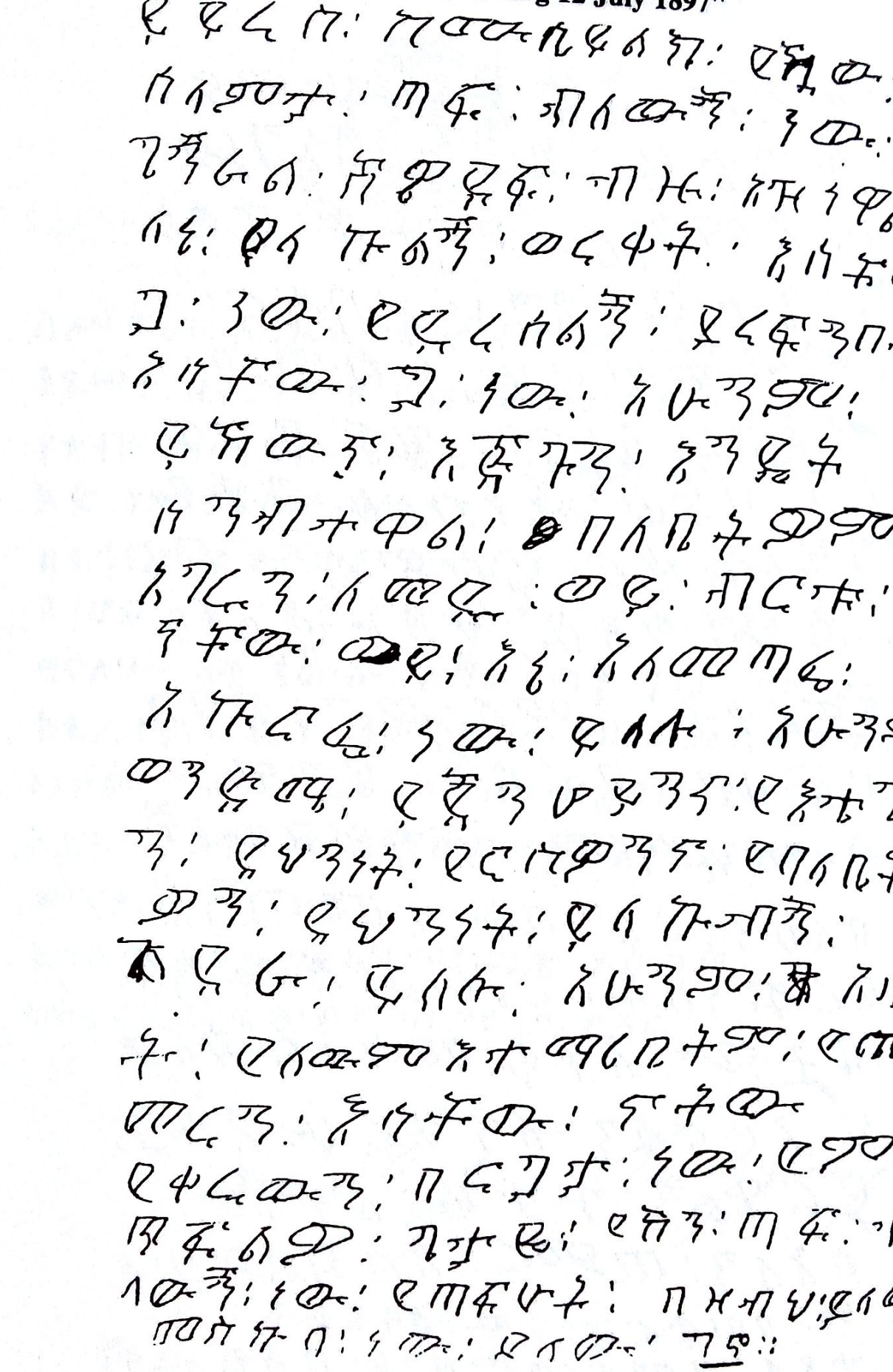
በሃረር፡በ፲፪ ሉልዮ፡በ፲፰፻፺፯ ተጻፈ።

Magᵉ Nerazzini

205.A. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
"St. Petersburg" 12 July "1897"

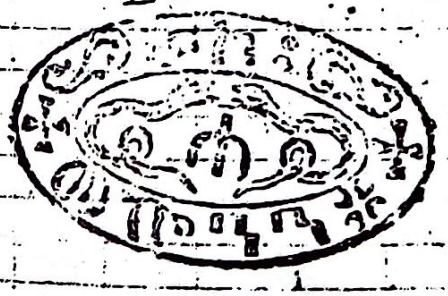


205.B. Ganno and Schwedow to Alfred Ilg
"St. Petersburg 12 July 1897"



206. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 25 July "1897"

የተሳከ፡ከራስ፡መኰንን። ደዱረስ፡ከክ
በር፡ወዳጁ፡ከመ፡ሌ፡ኤልግ።
በዙውን፡እንዲት፡ሰንብተሃል። ጤና
ህንስ፡እንደ፡ምን፡ነህ። እኒ፡እንዳለ
በሐር፡ደመሰገን፡ደሓና፡ነኝ።
የሳከው፡ም፡ወረቀት፡ደርሶልኝ፡እጅ
ላ፡ደስአለኝ። ለንላይሁ ም፡ቀለሙ፡
ቀለሙ፡እንድትጽፍልኝ፡ይሁን፡አደራ
ህን። ለሚስትህም፡እንዲት፡ሰነበት
ሽ፡ብለህ፡ሰላምታ፡ንገርልኝ። ምኒ
ሰተር፡ለጋርድ፡ሉንተ፡ይ ትንንሽ፡ሣጥ
ን፡ላክልኝ፡ብለው፡ሰደውልኝ፡ነበር፡
ይኸው፡ከጂንሆይ፡ኡታ፡ንራ፡ልኪል
ሃለሁና፡እንድትቀበል፡ይሁን።
እጓለ፡ብሐር፡ጤና፡ይስጥህ። ተኛ
ራ፡ሐምሌ፡ ፲፱ ቀን። ቁልቢ፡ከተማ።



Documents

207. Cesare Nerazzini to Menilek II
Aden 26 July 1897

ለሠዩ መ፡ እግዚ አብሔር፡ ሐ ፂ፡ ምኒ ልክ፡ ዳግ ማዊ፡ ንጉ ሠ፡ነገ
ሥት፡ ዘኢት ዮጵያ ፡ መ ዘበ ሓው ር ታ፡ ጋሳ ፦
የተ ሳ ከ፡ ከ ማ ጀ ር ፡ ነ ራ ዚ ኒ ፤ በ ብ ዙ ፡ አ ክ ብ ር ፡ ለ ኛ ሠ ይ ፡ እ ጅ ፡ እ ነ ሣ
ለ ሁ ። በ እ ፍ ቅ ር ያ መ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ን ፡ እ ቀ ር ባ ለ ሁ ። በ ጤ ና ፡ መ ደ ፡ ዳ ደ ን ፡
እ ን ደ ፡ ገ ባ ሁ ፡ ከ ሁ ለት ፡ ቀ ን ፡ በ ኋ ላ ም ፡ መ ደ ፡ ኢ ጣ ል ያ ፡ እ ን ድ ሣ ፡ አ ስ
ታ ወ ሁ ፡ ቀ ም ፡ አ ለ ሁ ። እ ግዚ እ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ይ መ ስ ገ ን ፡ መ ን ገ ዴ ን ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡
እ ሠ ለ ጥ ሁ ኝ ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ግ ን ፡ በ መ ን ገ ዱ ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ወ ሁ ቀ ት ፡ አ ገ ኘ ነ ።
እ ቴ ጌ ፡ በ ኢ የ ሩ ሳ ሌ ም ፡ ስ ላ ለ ሁ ፡ ቤ ታ ቸ ው ፡ ይ ፈ ል ጉ ት ፡ የ ነ በ ረ ን ፡
ሁ ሉ ፡ የ ኔ ፡ መ ን ግ ሥ ት ፡ አ ድ ር ጎ ላ ቸ ዋ ለ ና ፡ እ ን ዲ ያ ስ ታ ው ቁ ዋ ቸ
ው ፡ እ ለ ይ ህ ን ም ፡ አ ለ ሁ ። ኋ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ተ ስ ፋ ፡ እ ን ደ ሰ ጡ ቱ ፡ ስ ለ ፡ ሂ ዮ
ግ ራ ፍ ያ ፡ እ ወ ቀ ት ፡ ጥ ቅ ም ፡ የ ቦ ታ ፡ እ ቃ ፡ መ ገ ኘ ት ፡ እ ን ዲ ቻ ል ፡ በ ኢ
ጣ ል ያ ፡ ሁ ሳ ቸ ው ፡ በ ቃ ል ፡ ተ ስ ፋ ፡ ያ ደ ር ጋ ሉ ። እ ጅ ግ ፡ መ ዳ ጅ ም ፡
የ ሆ ን ሁ ፡ እ ኔ ም ፡ ይ ህ ፡ እ ቃ ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ሐ ዲ ስ - ዓ በ ባ ፡ ከ እ ጀ ም ፡ የ ገ ባ ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡
መ ድ ያ ው ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ለ መ ን ግ ሥ ት ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ለ ኔ ፡ በ ስ ልክ ፡ እ ን ዲ ፈ ጉ ፡ ም ክ
ር ን ፡ አ ሰ ለ ም ፡ አ ለ ሁ ። የ ሓ ኪ ም ፡ ሣ ኪ ፡ እ ቃ ፡ ዲ ግ ሞ ፡ ማ ግ ኘ ቱ ፡ ይ ቻ ል ፡
እ ን ዴ ሆ ነ ፡ መ ል ካ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ያ ደ ር ጉ ፡ ነ በ ር ። የ ኋ ን ሆ ይ ፡ አ ን ድ ፡ ተ ሳ ግ
ራ ም ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ደ ስ ፡ ማ ሰ ኛ ፡ ይ ሆ ና ል ፤ እ ኔ ም ፡ አ ጠ ን ቀ ዐ ፡ አ ለ ሁ ።
ወ ደ ፡ ኢ ጣ ል ያ ፡ ሰ ገ ባ ፡ እ ኔ ፡ ወ ድ ያ ው ፡ በ ስ ልክ ፡ እ ል ክ ላ ም ፡ አ ለ ሁ ።
እ ን ደ ፡ ዛ ሬ ው ፡ እ ን ዲ ሁ ፡ ሁ ለ ግዜ ፡ እ ግዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ በ ወ ዴ ኔ ቱ ፡
ይ ጠ ብ ቃ ን ። መ ል ካ ም ን ም ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ይ ስ ጠ ም ።
በ ዓ ደ ን ፡ በ ፲ ፯ ኛ ሉ ል ዮ ፡ በ ፲ ፱ ፻ ፯ ፲ ፯ ተ ጻ ፈ ።

Mad^re Nerazzini

208. A Telephone Message to Menilek II
Addis Ababā ... "July 1897"

ሀ ሥላሴ ፡ ምሳላ ፣ ገሰ ።

ክ ፡ ፣ ሠ ሂ ፡

መ ጽ ፡ ኃ ኔ ፡ ሳ ለ ፻ ፡ ለ ፣ ና ፡ ሂ ስ ፡ ፣ ል ኛ ፡ በ ሃ ፡ ፡ ፣ ፡ ኣ ፣ ፡ ፡ ኣ ፡ ኣ ሳ ለ ሁ ።

ኣ ሙ ፡ ጽ ሁ ለ ፡ ፡ ስ ፡ ኣ ነ ፡ ፭ ፯ ፣ ፣ ፡ በ ሥ ላ ሴ ፣ ፡ ኣ ፣ ኛ ሂ ህ ፡ ኣ ለ ኛ ።

ፊ ል ፍ ፣ ፡ ለ ሂ ፡ ደ ለ ፡ ሰ ት ፡ ኣ ነ ፡ ር ስ ት ደ ፡ ኔ ፡ ፣ ለ ፡ ፡ ለ ፡ ፣ ፡ ወ ረ ዲ ፡ ኣ ሳ ት ፡

ቆ ሉ ፡ ኣ ጣ ፈ ሳ ፡ ስ ለ ሁ ፡ ና ፡ ፡ ኣ ፡ ሥ ፡ ሁ ለ ፡ ሂ ኔ ፡ የ ሁ ፣ ፣ ለ ኛ ፡ ፡ ኙ ቱ ፣ ኔ ወ ።

ደ ግ ሞ ፡ ፭ ፯ ፣ ለ ሂ ፡ ስ ለ ሁ ኞ ፡ ፡ ኔ ፣ ፡ ሂ ዘ ፡ ሲ ፣ ሁ ፡ ደ ነ ፣ ሀ ፣ ዋ ኞ ወ ፡

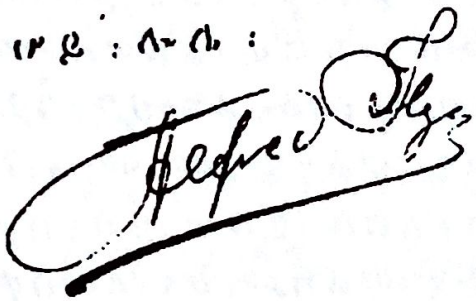
ና ፡ ኣ ስ ር ሀ ፡ ዋ ኞ ው ። ሂ ወ ሳ ሳ ኞ ፡ ሲ ጠ ሂ ቅ ፡ ሂ ራ ስ ፡ ፡ ሠ ኻ ፡ ኔ ኔ ፡ ኔ ኔ ፡

ይ ለ ለ ፡ ፡ ኣ ግ ር ፡ ግ ኔ ፡ ኣ ሠ ሁ ኣ ት ፡ ኣ ይ ጠ ፡ ስ ፣ ለ ኛ ፻ ። ወ ሂ ፡ ኣ ሂ ስ ፡ ኣ በ ሳ ፡

ሊ ላ ኻ ፡ ፡ ሠ ሂ ። ለ መ ሂ ኃ ኔ ፡ ሳ ለ ፻ ፡ በ ኔ ና ፡ ሂ ስ ፡ ፣ ል ኛ ፡ በ ለ ፡ ኔ ፡

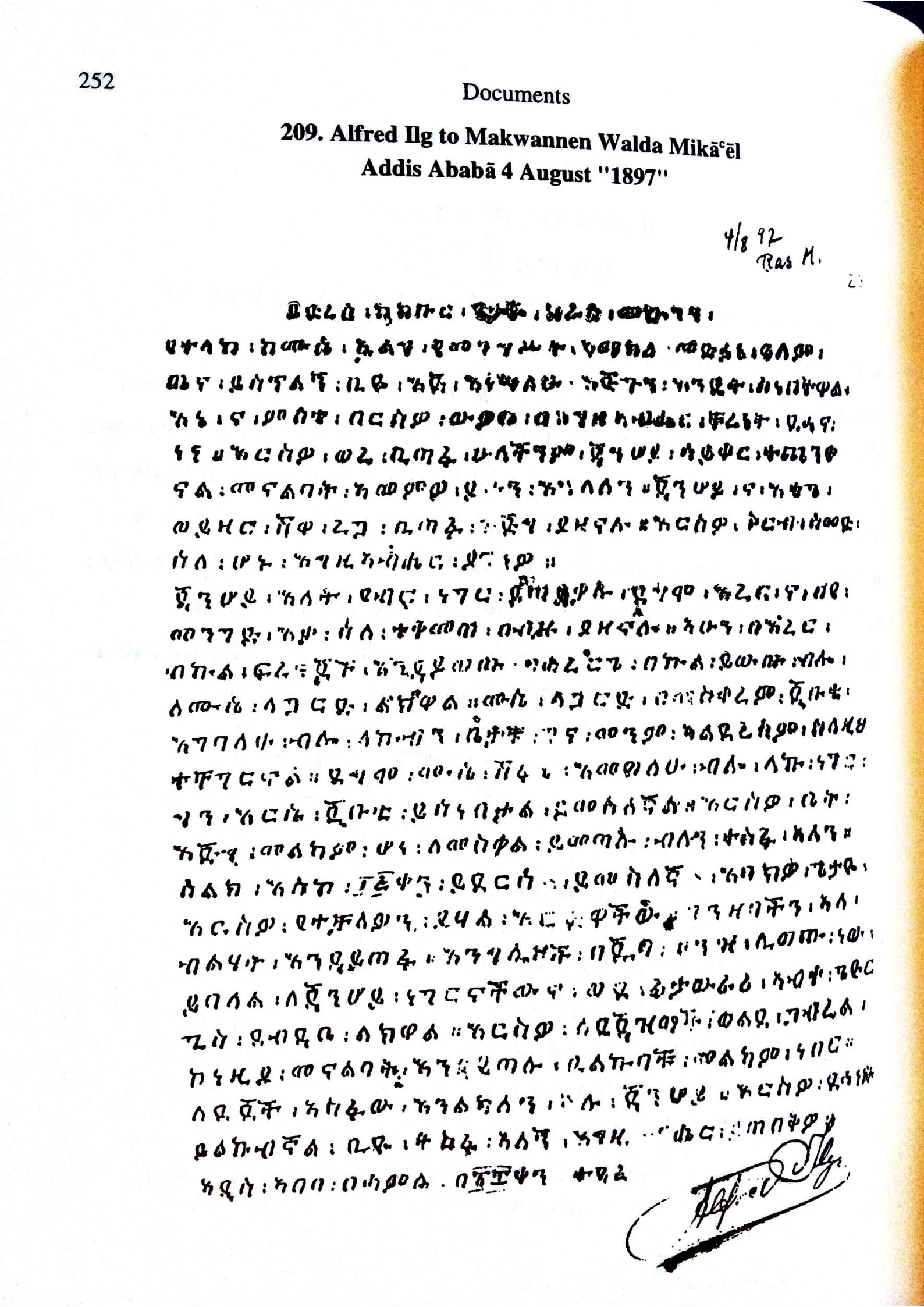
ኣ ኛ ፡ ፡ ኔ ፡ ኔ ኔ ፡ ሳ ለ ፡ ኔ ፡ ሂ ለ ሉ ፡ ለ መ ፡ ሰ ኔ ፡ ሂ ራ ዋ ኔ ፡ ፡ ፡ ኣ ፦ ኵ ሠ ለ ፡ ስ ።

ዋ ኛ ኔ ሠ ይ ፡ ሉ ሴ ፡

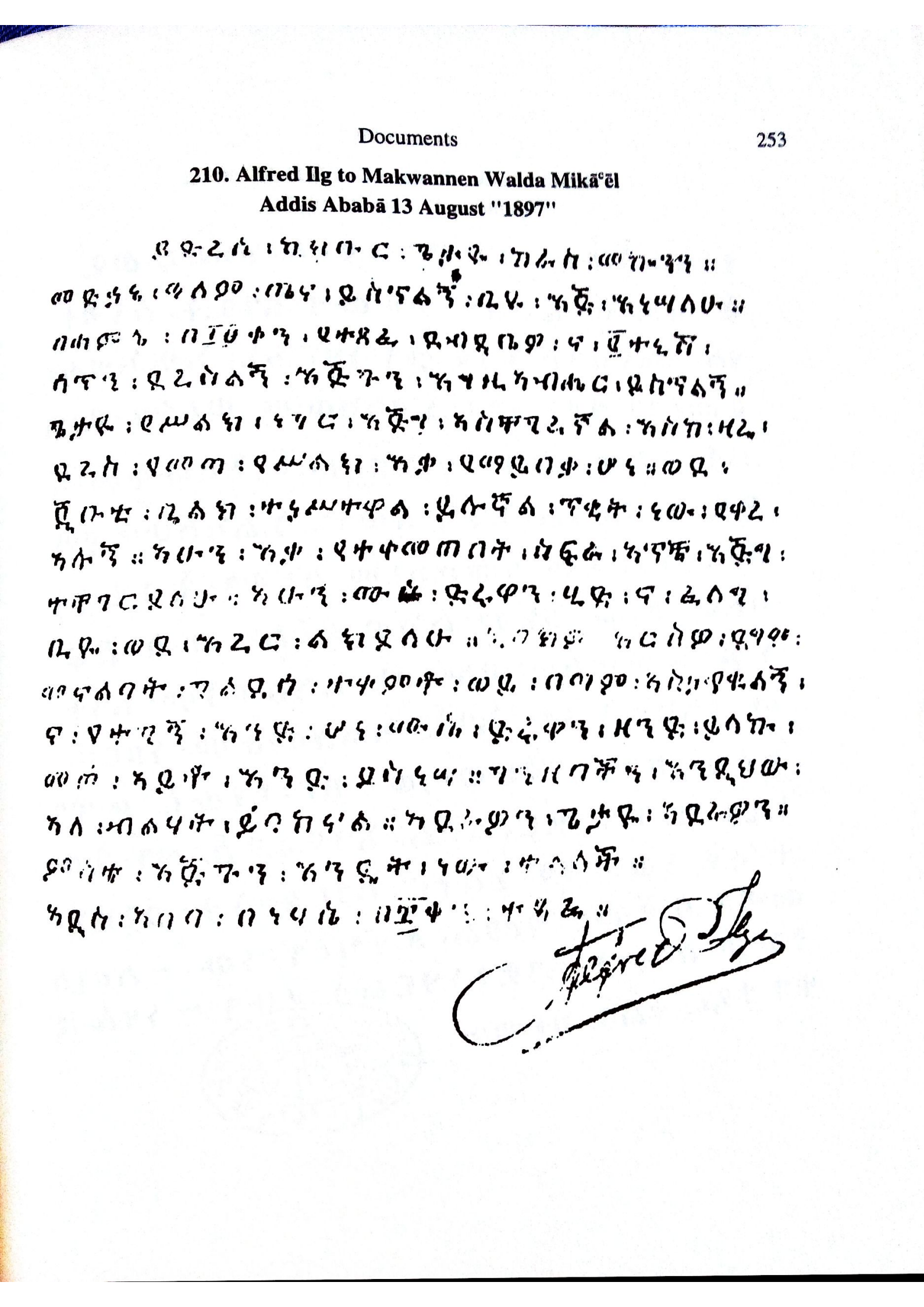


209. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 4 August "1897"

4/8 92
Ras M.
23



210. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 13 August "1897"



211. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 17 August "1897"

የተሳከ፡ ከራስ፡ መኰንን። ደጁረስ፡ ከክቡር፡ ወዲ
ጂ፡ ከሙሴ፡ ኤልግ። ብዙውን፡ እግዲት፡ ሰንብተ
ሃል። ጤናህን፡ እንደ፡ ምን፡ ነህ። እኔ፡ እዝእብረር፡
ደመስገን፡ ዲሳና፡ ነኝ። እየሳከው-ም፡ ወረቀት፡ ደረስ
ልኝ። እኔም፡ ወረቀት፡ ላልክ፡ ቀርቼ፡ አሳው-ቅም፡ ባ
ደዲርስ፡ ደሆናል፡ እንጂ፡ ዘወትር፡ እልክለሀ። ምኒ
ስተር፡ ሰጋርዲም፡ በመስከረም፡ ባይ-ቅን፡ ጁ-ቢ፡ እግ
ባለሁ፡ ብሶው፡ በኔ ም፡ ልክው-ብኝል። ሙሴ፡ ሽፍ
ኔም፡ እመጣለሁ፡ ብሉ፡ በኔ፡ አሳክ-ብኝም፡ አኳተ
ው፡ የሳክ-ብኝ፡ ነው፡ እንጂ፡ አልሰጣሁ ም፡ ነበር።
ከሱ-ም፡ ዘኔዲ፡ የሚመጣው፡ ብር፡ ይ-ይው ሺ፡ ላኛኔ፡
እኔን፡ መጥ-ት፡ ደርሶልኝል፡ እግዲ፡ ይ ሺ፡ ላን፡ ጁቡ
ቲ፡ ሳደ፡ ነው። የም ኒስተር፡ ሰጋርዲ፡ እሱ፡ ወደዚህ
መጣን፡ ቢጁም፡ ላመል፡ ሌችላረኔ፡ ነው። ለሚስ
ትህም፡ ሰላምታ፡ እግዲትነላርልኝ፡ ይሁን። ነሳሴ፡ ፲፩
ቀን፡ ተጻፈ፡ ቁልቢ፡ ከተማ።

212. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 19 August "1897"

የተሳከ፡ ከራስ፡ መኰንን፡፡ ደዊሪስ፡ ከ ክቡር፡
ወዲኺ፡ ከወ-ሴ፡ ኪልላ።— ብዙ ወ-ን፡ እንዲ
ት፡ ሰላ-ብተሂል።። ወኒና ህነስ፡ እግዚ፡ ም ን፡ ነህ።።
እኔ፡ እ-ዚእ-በ ፈ.ር፡ ደመስገን፡ ደሳና፡ ነኝ።—
ምኒስተር፡ ሶጋር ዲ ም፡ ደኽው፡ በ-ቃ-ሎ፡ ሲ መ
ጡ፡ ጊዚው፡ ቀ ረብ።። እንግዲህ፡ የሳችው፡ ቤት፡
ስራ፡ የማይ ዲ.ር ስ፡ ነ ው ና፡ ሲ መጡ፡ እ ኔ ም፡
ቤት፡ ቢ ገበ፡ ግድ፡ የለ ም፡ እ ኔ ም፡ እ ዚ ደ ው፡ እ
ቤ ቱ፡ ጐ ን፡ መደ፡ በ ኺ ር መንዲ፡ ባልቻ፡ ቤት፡ ጐ ን፡
ሰ ፍ ለ-ክእ ጠ ግ ባ ች ው፡ እ ልር ቅ ም፡ ደ ህ፡ ደመች፡
እንዲ ሆ ነ፡ ለ ኺ ጉ ሆ ደ፡ ብ ታ መ ለ እ ነ ት፡ መልካም፡
ነው።— ተሄ ሬ፡ ነ ለ ሴ፡ ፲ ፬ ቀን፡ ቁ ልቢ፡።—

213. Menilek II to Antonio di Rudini
Addis Ababā "4"[?] September 1897

Alfred Ilg
Ingenieur

Rudini ministre Rome

Reçu telegramme 3 Sept, très-content de la ratifications traité de commerce et accords pour la frontières, espérant que relations amicales entre Ethiopie et Italie se fortifient. Ciccodicola sera bienvenu
Salut
Menilek.

ባሚኑስተር : ሩዲኔ : ሮማ ፡

የ፫ኛውን ካጊያም ፡ ፫ሁን ፡ ነፉክ ፡ ሺረነፉኝ ። የንግዲ ፡ ውሉ ፡ ደስ፡ተሰኝተዋል ፡ የወ ነን ፡ ግሞ ነባታቸን ፡ ግሞ ሰ በለችሁ ፡ "ሳ ፫ግ ፡ ሺ ነ ፡ አለኝ ። በኢትዮጵያ ፡ ና ፡ በኢጣሊያ ፡ መሐሉ ፡ ደለ ፡ ፍቅር ፡ መ ለ ላ ክ ፡ ኣ ሮ ፡ በ ጊ ታ ፡ ኣ ን ፫ ሂ ፡ ፡ ተ ነ ሩ ፡ ኣ ሻ ረ ጋ ለ ሁ ፡ ቸ ከ ሺ ኩ ለ ፡ ቢ መ ጣ ፡ ፫ ነ ፡ ፮ ለ ና ለ ። ሰ ላ ም ፡ ለ ር ነ ሃ ፡ ይ ሁ ን ፡

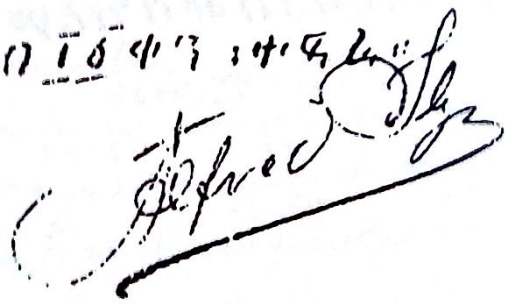
ግ ሞ ሩ ፍ ክ ።

9307 12803 13324 (div.E) 11298 18746 2525
Ricevuto telegramma 3 settembre contentissimo
17791 8625 13300 16484 2411 18027 24177 6624
della ratifica trattato commercio ed accordo per la
5325 19037 11910 8958 23312
nuova confine sperando relazione amichevoli
131 5138 16484 25668 15094 18184 4533
fra Etiopia ed Italia fortificandosi. Ciccodicola molto
905 10249
gradito. Saluto
3897
Menilek

214. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 13 September "1897"

[illegible]

215. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 20 September "1897"

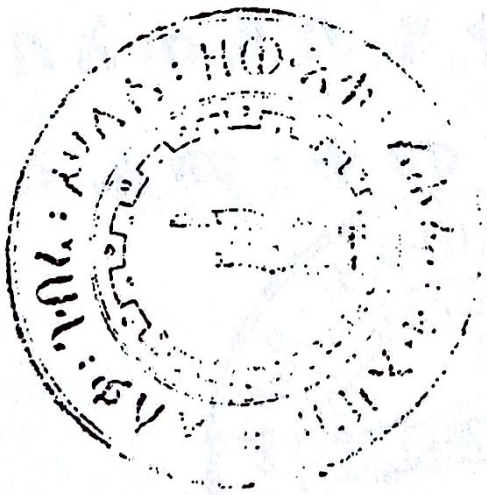


216. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 September 1897

ደ ዱ ረ ሰ ። ከ ወ ው ሲ ። ኤ ሰ ላ ። ኮ ን ሲ ል ዮ ። ዲ ኢ ታ ።
አ ክ ሲ ላ ን ሰ ። ። ወ ዲ ። ደ ጀ ች ። ተ ሰ ማ ። አ ገ ር ። የ ወ
ረ ደ ው ። ው ሲ ። ዱ ቡ ኸ ን ። ወ ደ ዘ ደ ። መ ሂ ዱ ን ። ኩ
ተ ። ወ ደ ዘ ህ ። መ ጥ ቃ ው ። እ ን ዲ ሠ ሩ ። የ ደ ጀ ች ።
ተ ሰ ማ ። ሰ ዎ ች ። ወ ዲ ። ደ ጀ ች ። ተ ሰ ማ ። ደ ሳ ደ ቢ ። ል
ከ ዋ ል ። ። የ ደ ሳ ደ ቢ ው ም ። ቃ ል ። ወ ደ ዘ ህ ። የ መ ጣ ።
አ ስ መ ሰ ሎ ታ ል ። ። የ ላ ኩ ት ን ም ። ደ ሳ ደ ቢ ። እ
ን ዲ ደ ር ጅ ። ጂ ን ሠ ደ ። ሰ ደ ድ ሉ ት ። ሳ ሰ ው ች ። ደ
ኸ ው ። ሰ ድ ጂ ል ሠ አ ለ ሁ ና ። ደ ዱ ት ። ። በ መ ሰ ከ
ረ ም ። በ ፲ ፫ ቀ ን ። ባ ዲ ሰ ። ለ በ ባ ። ለ ቱ ሚ ። ።
በ ፲ ፰ ፱ ን ዓ መ ት ። ም ሕ ረ ት ። ተ ጻ ፈ ።

217. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 1 October "1897"

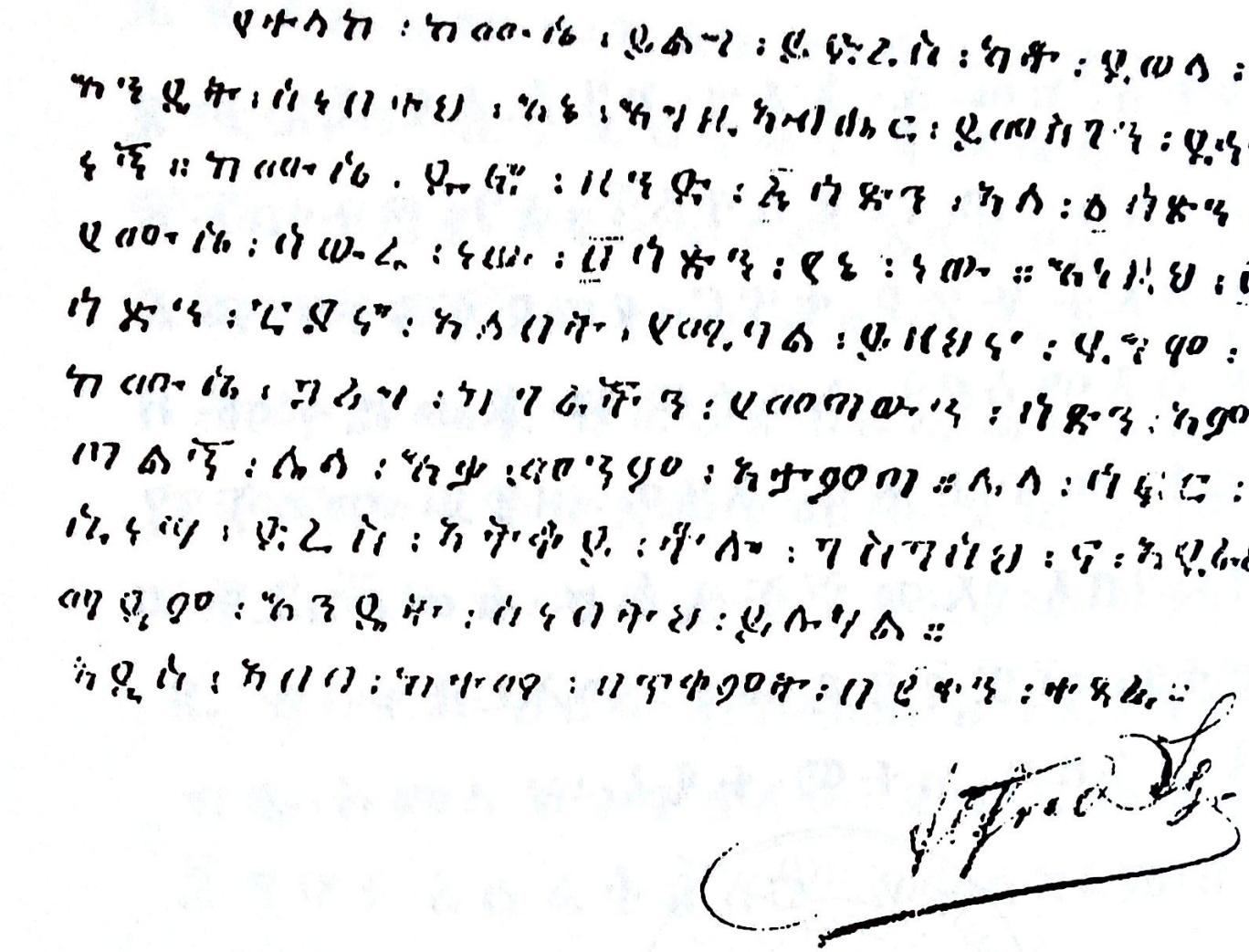
ደ ዱ ረ ሰ ከ መ ሴ ኤ ፅ ግ ከ ዓ ሲ ሐ ፎ ደ ኢ ታ ኤ
ክ ሲ ሳ ዓ ሶ ጢ ና ደ ሰ ጥ ሐ ሻ ፣ ፀ መ ሴ ሳ ጋ ር ዱ ጓ
መ ሰ ቱ ዓ ግ ደ በ ፀ ሠ ፍ ራ ው እ ዓ ደ ደ ሰ ቱ ና ግ ዱ
ለ ክ ጣ ሐ ው ኛ ሐ ነ ጣ ር ግ ጣ ሰ ም ዓ ሷ ር ና ሰ ነ
ዓ ኮ ራ ኹ ማ ቹ ከ ዘ ህ ዱ ጣ ዱ ሪ ሐ ክ ለ ደ ር
ለ ም ና ከ ዘ ህ ቀ ደ ም ፀ መ ጡ ጊ ዘ እ ዓ ዱ ሰ ቱ
ና ግ ዱ ጁ ሁ ኡ ዛ ሬ ም እ ዓ ዱ ዘ ደ ው ለ ሰ ቱ ና ግ
ዱ ጣ ሐ ዋ ሐ ጣ ሐ ው በ ሠ ሐ ክ እ ዓ ደ ነ ግ ሯ ሽ
ጠ ፎ ለ መ ሰ ክ ኡ ዋ ታ ሰ ሁ ። ደ ህ ነ ዓ ም ቋ ሐ ከ
ሷ ዓ ሦ ደ ለ ሌ ሎ ሷ ሰ ሁ ። በ መ ሰ ከ ረ ም በ ፮ ፫
ቀ ዒ ፣ ጣ ደ ሌ ለ ለ በ ጣ ክ ሏ ወ ቀ ኾ ረ ።



218. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 2 October "1897"

ደ ጅ ፤ ለ ሰ ፡ ከ መ ፡ ሴ ፡ ኤ ል ግ ፡ ኮ ግ ሲ ል የ ፡ ጂ ኢ ታ ፡ ኤ
ክ ሴ ላ ግ ስ ። ። ጤ ና ፡ ይ ሰ ጥ ልኝ ። ። ነ ግ ፡ ግ ት ፡ በ ድ ሰ
ግ ት ፡ በ ኤ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፡ ቁ ጥ ር ፡ የ ወ ፃ ጁ ነ ት ግ ፡ ም ል
ክ ት ፡ ስ ለ ማ ሳ የ ት ፡ ኦ ር ሰ ው ም ፡ እ መ ቤ ት ም ፡ ካ
ኔ ፡ ቤ ት ፡ መ ጥ ሃ ኞ ሁ ፡ እ ግ ጁ ፡ ዘ ግ ጁ ፡ ም ሳ ኞ ግ ግ ፡
እ ግ ጁ ግ በ ላ ፡ ለ ም ሮ ጉ ኒ ለ ሁ ፡ በ መ ሰ ከ ረ ም ፡ በ
ፍ ቦ ቁ ግ ፡ ባ ፲ ፸ ፱ ፯ ዒ መ ቱ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ። ።
ባ ጂ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፡ ተ ፯ ፌ ። ።

219. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā
Addis Ababā 11 October "1897"



Documents

220. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 14 October 1897

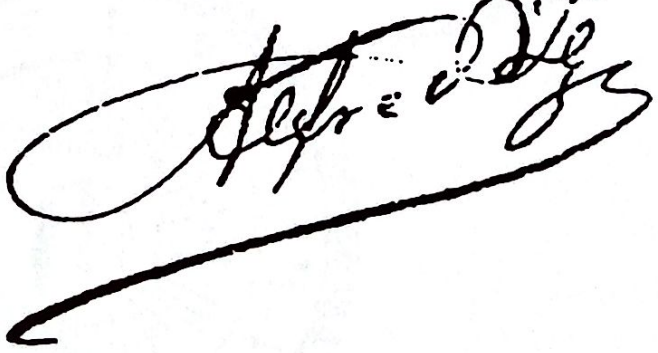
ሞዓ፡ አፃ በሳ፡ ዘእምነገደ፡ ይሁዳ፡ ደግማዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡
ሠራመ፡ኦግዱ አብሐር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይድረስ፡ከቢሯ ደጅ፡ኢልግ፡ አግዱት፡ሰፃብቶሃል፡
እኒ፡እግዱ አብሐር፡ይመሠግን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ፡ ፦
ሩሌ፡በደኅና፡መድረሳችሁን፡የላክኸው፡ደብዳቤ፡
ደረሰልኝ።፡ ነገር፡ግን፡ከዚድህ፡ገሮ ምሮ፡እሰካሁን፡
ምንም፡ጉዳይ፡ኦልተገኘ።፡ ጉዳይ ማ፡ሲገኝ፡እኒ፡እ
ልክብሃለሁ፡፡ የላሙግመ፡ነገር፡ኦኒ፡ እሰ ካሰመጣ
ው፡ድረስ፡ከዚህ፡ቀደምኣግዱ፡ተነጋግሮነው፡በየባ
ሳግሉ፡ቢት፡ትመርጥ፡ቀቢው፡ኦየተጠራቀመ፡ኣግዱ
መጣልግ፡ይሁን።፡ወደ፡ኦፉ፡ወለደየሰምኑ፡ደብዳቢ፡
ሰድጀለሁ።፡ ሉናግተምየ፱ቱን፡ሳም፡ወተት፡ይ
ጥተዱልኝ፡ያልከውግ፡የመን ከሉ፡ኣንኳን፡፱ ላም፡
የ፫ የ፬ም፡ላም፡ወተት፡ሌቅጂ ልሃለሁ።፡ ለኚላም፡
ላቢትህ፡የሚሆኑህ፡፬ ላጭች፡መርጠህ፡ክትመጣ፡
ይዘህ፡እግድት መጣ፡ይሁን።፡ ያግበሳ፡ግልግል፡ኧት
ይዚል፡ከዚህ፡ቀደም፡አሰ ኸተያዘው፡፮ መሆኑ፡ነው።፦
እግሳኢህ፡እግበሳ፡የሚያለም ደው፡ሰው፡በመጣ፡መ
ልካም፡ነው።፡ ለሚስትህም፡አግኑግ፡ ለም ድሽ ወደ፡
ዝለህ፡ስለምታ፡ግገር ልኝ።፡ በጥቃምት፡በ፫ተግ።፡
ግ፲ ፫ ፬ ፭ ዓመተ፡ምሕረት።፡ ባደሰ፡እበባ፡ከተማ፡
ተጻፈ።፦ ፦ ፦

221. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Addis Ababā 17 October 1897

ሞዓአግበሳ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡ኃግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡
ሠዪመ፡ኤግዚአብሔር፡ግዑዝ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይድረሰ፡ከቢዙደ ጽ፡ኢልጣ፡እግዚትኑ፡ሰግብተሃልእእ
ኔ፡አግዘ አብሔር ይመሠግግ፡ይፋኖ፡ነሻ።፡ ።
ፅወቷይር።ትሽክማኑ፡የማሚሂጽ፡ትግሽ፡ምኑረየሰ፡
ወጥቷለኞ፡ተብኡ፡የሰማነውግ፡ሙሲ፡ላጋርጽ፡እ
ግዐጥዙ፡ኑሮ፡አግቱ፡ከሂድክ፡በኂላ፡ሰጠኻ።፡እኛም፡
የማናውቅበትሮ፡ብልሃቱ፡ጠፍጭግ፡አሰቀምጠነ
ዋል።፡ራሰ፡መኰግግም፡ማክሰኞ፡ኡደሰ፡አበባ፡ሌግ
ባ፡ነው።። አግተሰ፡ኤግ ግደህ፡የምትመጣው፡መቼ፡ነው።።
ረበዕ፡ሳኑግባ፡ትቀራለህግ።፡ጉያ ይማ፡እግደለህ፡ግ
ጽ፡የለም፡አላሰችግርህም፡ ።በጥቀሜትኑ፡በ፫ቀግ።።
ባረ፫የግዓመቱ፡ምሕረት።፡ግደሰ፡አበባ፡ከተማ፡ተሻረ።።

222. Alfred Ilg to Sebḥāt Aragāwi
Addis Ababā 27 November "1897"

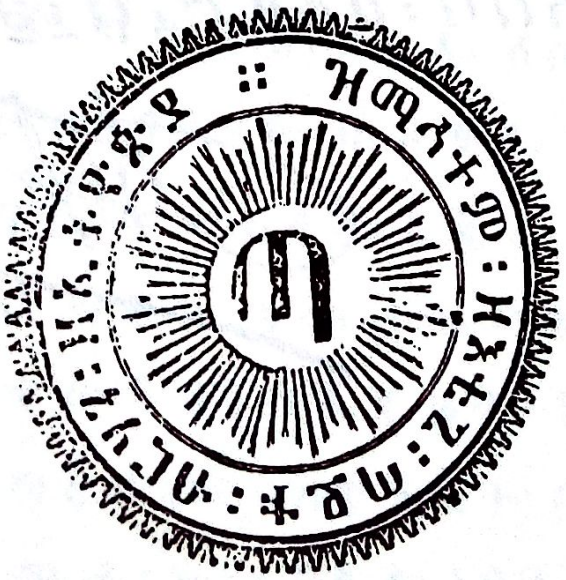
የሥላሴ ፡ ከቢሻውያ.ም ፡ ኢሉግ ፡ ይሁሪ ስ ፡
ከ ክብር ፡ ራስ ፡ ዘብሳሌ ፡ መኮንን ፡ ሣህልማሪያም ፡
ለጌና ፡ ይስጥልኝ ፡ ቢየ ፡ ሄኖ ፡ ኑሩ ፡ ከሄሎ ፡
ሣሕሱጉ ፣ አጎዲት ፡ ስሩበጥ ፡ ሣሄ ፡ በሄግ
ዘአዝዘሩር ፡ ቸረሉት ፡ ይሁና ፡ ኑኝ ።
ይሁናኑትሁኝ ፡ ስለ ፡ ሳከሥዝኝ ፡ ሄይግ ፡
ይስ ፡ በሉፍል ፡ ሄግዘአዝዘሩር ፡ ይመስገኝሃል ።
አሁንማ ፡ በጥቂት ፡ በኩል ፡ መንማ ፡ ጥሀ ፡
ሣአጎይሩሣ ፡ ከኢጣሊያ ጭች ፡ በይሁና ፡
ሥስለወማማት ፣ አጎይ ፡ ሁሉመጡ ፡ሠሎችንማ ፡
ወስለ ፡ አለ ። ሄርስለ ፡ በጠማ ፣ በርትቱ ፡
አጣር ፡ በሄረፍት ፡ ኢጎይሠኝ ። ይስለው ፡
ስማ ፡ አጣር ፡ ኢሉና ፡ ስለ ፡ በወይሉከማ ፡
ሲ አሰይር ፡ ነው ፡ ወዲበጠሉ ። ሄርስለ ፡ አባክህ ፡
ሩጣር ፡ ይሣወዋች ፡ አጎይሩሣ ፡ ይጠኝሁዛ ።
ሄሣዘ.አዝዘሩር ፡ በይሁና ፡ ለወዲችት ፡
ይበማኝ ።
አይስ ፡ አበበ ፡ በሳይር ፡ በ፲፱ኛው ፡ ቀኑ ፡ ፲፰፺፯ ።



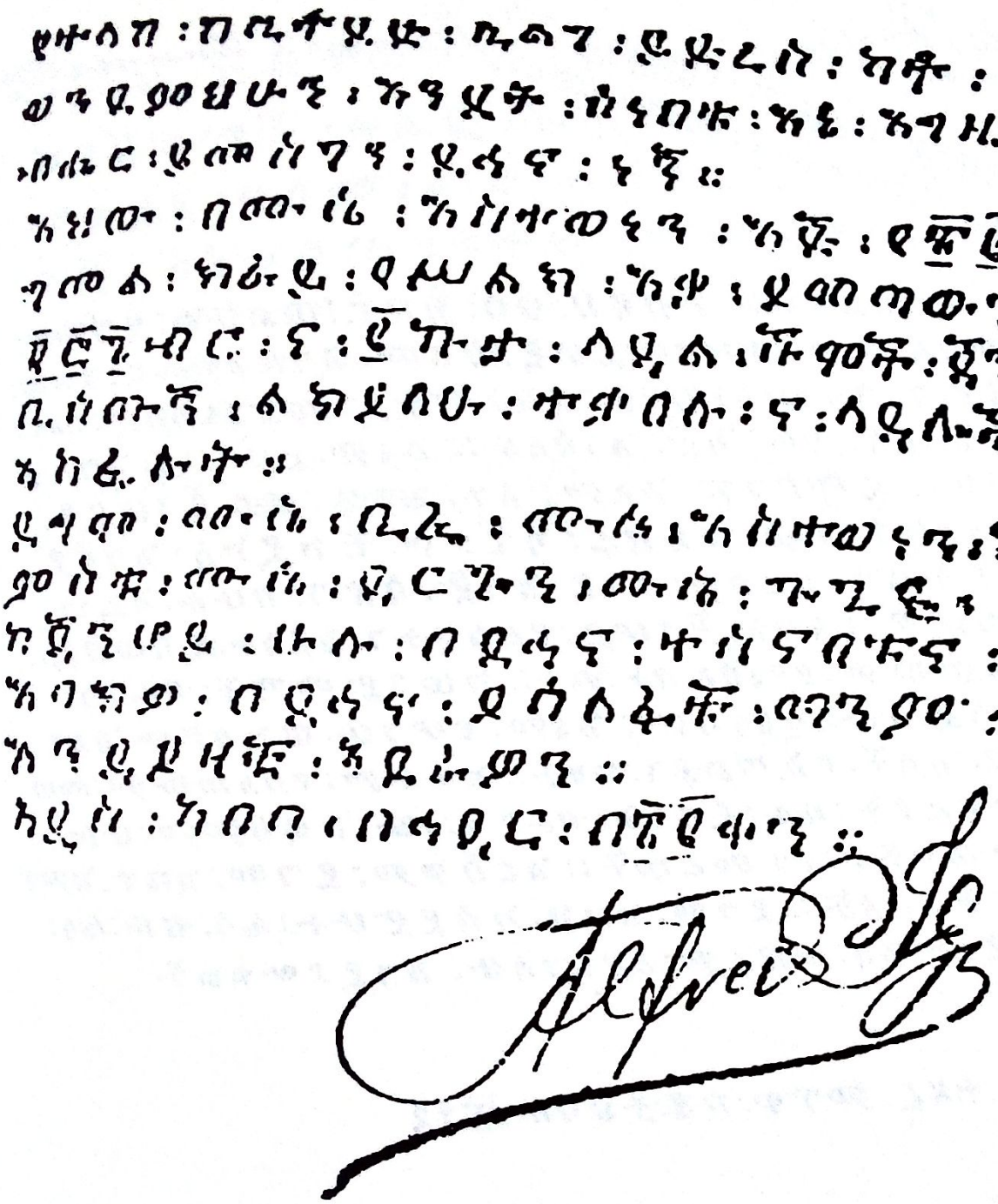
የኢትዮጵያ ጥናትና ምርምር
INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPA
STUDIES
የውጭ አገር ቋንቋዎች
FOREIGN LANGUAGES

223. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 28 November 1897

ዋ ኑ ላ ከ፡ ከ እ ቲ ሄ፡ ጣ ሄ ቱ፡ ዝ ር ሃ ኔ፡
ዘ ኢ ቱ ሂ ቋ ሄ። ዱ ድ ረ ሰ፡ ከ ቢ ጭ ዷ
ዬ፡ አ ል ላ፡ ኦ ን ዲ ት፡ ው ለ ሃ ለ ል፡ እ ኔ፡
እ ግ ዚ እ ዝ ሐ ር፡ ዱ መ ሠ ገ ን፡ ሄ ህ ና፡
ኛ። አ ፈ፡ ን ጉ ሠ፡ ኑ ሲ ው፡ ቤ ት፡ ፈ ን ጣ
ጣ፡ ገ ዝ ታ ለ ች፡ ሄ ን ት፡ እ ጅ፡ መ ለ ካ ም፡
ኑ ው ና፡ ወ ዲ ጂ፡ ል ጅ ቲ ን፡ አ ን ት፡ ክ
ት ዝ ል ኛ። በ ህ ዱ ር፡ ለ ፩ ቀ ን፡ ባ ዲ ስ፡
አ ለ ግ፡ ከ ት ወ ሳ፡ ባ ፲ ፬ ፪ ን ሃ ዝ ወ ት፡ ም
ሕ ረ ት። ት አ ፈ ።



224. Alfred Ilg to Wandemhun
Addis Ababā 30 November "1897"



225. Ercole Pozzi to Menilek II
Massawa 2 December 1897

Ercole Pozzi
Massawa

Massaua li 2 Dicembre 1897

UNICO RAPPRESENTANTE PER LA COLONIA E... DELLE CASE F.lli BRANCA DI MILANO E MARTINI & ROSSI DI ...

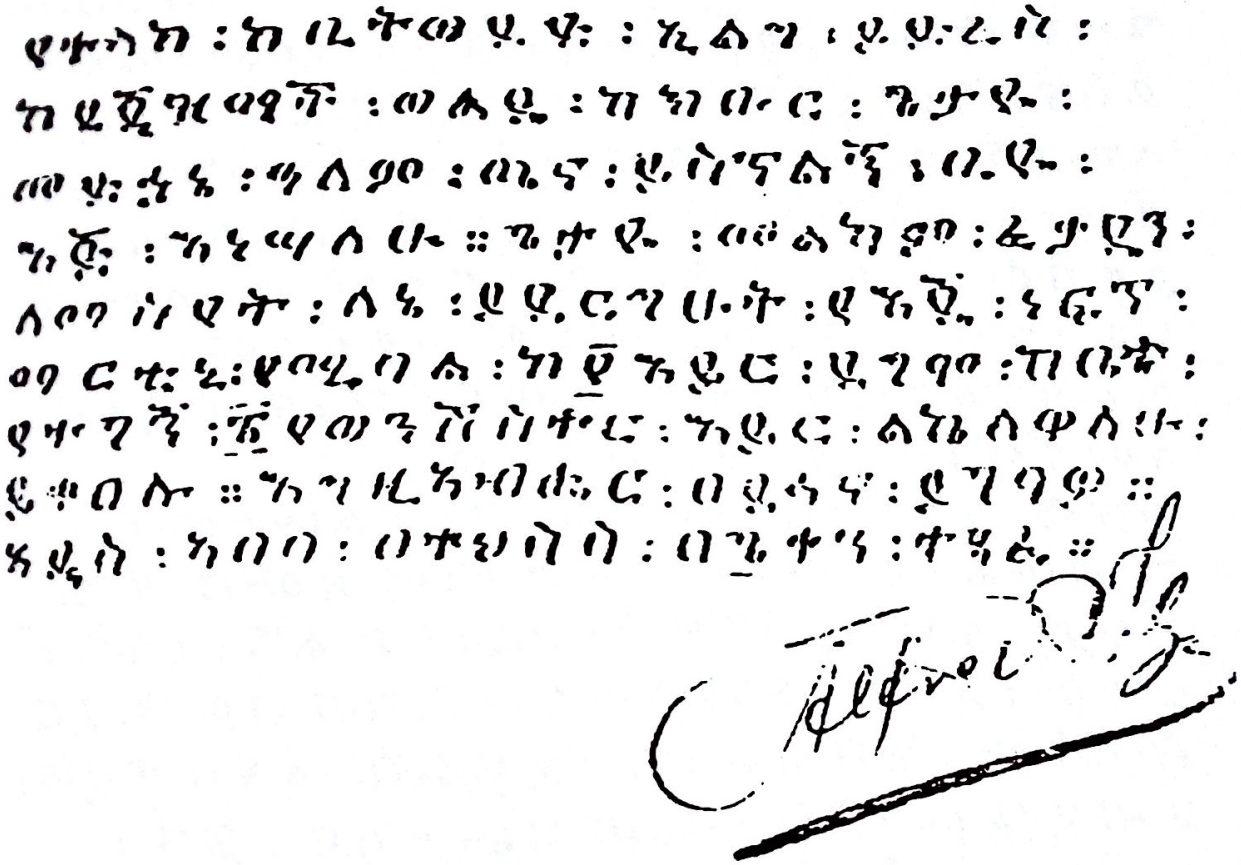
መልእክት፡ ትብጻህ፡ ህበ፡ ክቡር፡ ወልሁል፡ ደግማዊ፡ ምንሊክ፡ ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡ ስዩመ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ ጽዮን፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ። መድኃኒአለም፡ጤና፡ ይስጥልኝ፡ ብዬ፡ ሽድ፡ አነሳለሁ። ሐቤም፡ደህና፡ነኝ፡ እግዚአ ብሔር፡ይመስገን። አለምናለሁ፡ [redacted] ኗንሦይዬ፡ ስለ፡በጉነተዋ። የአበሬ፡ ካፒታኖ፡ቺ ኮዲኮሳ፡ እንደያ ደርሱልኝ፡ ከርሰዋ፡ዘንዲ፡እንድ፡ሳጽን፡ከሁሉ፡እይነት፡ መጠጥ፡ያለባት፡ኗንሦይ፡የፌስጉትን፡አይነት፡ሊስወስዲ። መጠጡም፡የሚሰራበት፡ቤት። ከወንድ ማማች፡በራንካ፡ ዘንዲ፡ነው፡ከዚሳናም። እቤም፡የሦንሁ፡ወኪሳቸው፡በኤሮ ትራ፡ባለች፡የኢጣልያን፡ግዛት። ከሁሉም፡የበለጠው ም፡መጠ ጥ፡የዚያች፡ቤት፡ፈርንት፡ብራንካ፡ነው፡በዓለምም፡ሁሉ፡ የታወቀች ና፡የተመረጠች። እርስዋም፡ደግሞ፡ከቤተ፡ክህነ ዋ፡ትገኛለች። ደግሞ፡ከዚህ፡ከሰደድሁት፡ሌሳ፡ብዙ፡ሌሳ፡ አይነት፡እለ፡ተስፋም፡አደርጋለሁ፡ እንደያው ልኝ፡

ተጻፈ፡ምጥዋ፡በ፪፡ታህሳስ፡ ፲፰፻፺፯

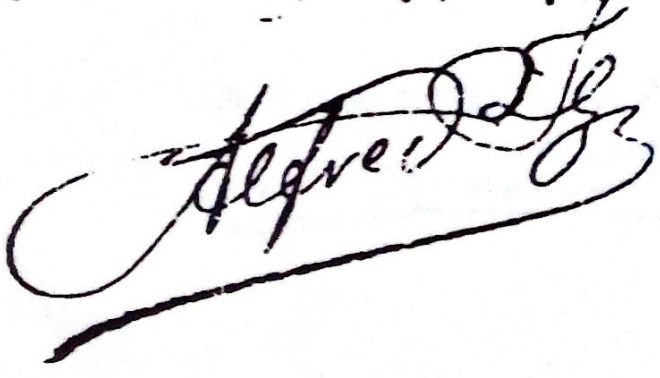
ከባልዬር፡ኤርኮሌ፡ፖሲ።

Pozzi Ercole

226. Alfred Ilg to Waldē Aššāgrē
Addis Ababā 14 December "1897"



227. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 17 December "1897"



228. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Mannāgašā Camp 19 December 1897

ሞላጌ፡ ኣገለሳ፡ ሃ እግዚኣብሄር ፡ዘ ኃይሉ ፡ዓ ለም ፡ንጉሠ ፡ነገሥት ፡ዘኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወ ሀገረ ፡ኦ ሮሞ ፡ከቢዋ ፡ጽ ድ፡ኢ ል ግ፡ እ ግሄ ፋ፡ ሰ ሩ ሳ ሁ ኑ ሃል ፡ እኔ፡ እ ግዚኣብሔር ፡ይ መ ለ ሠ ግ ን ፡ጌ ታ ና፡ ነ ኝ ። መ ኮ ንግ ሽ ፡የ ኑ ጠ ረ በ፡ እ ግ ርጪ ት፡ ፲ ፫ ፲ ፫ ጠ ቂ ር ፡ኑ ግ ፍ ሁ ። ፡የ ዚ ህ ን ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ አ ለ ው ቅ ሃ ፡ አ ል ኩ ት ። ፡ አ ሁ ን ም፡ የ ለ ሰ ሉ ት ፡ መ ረ ፉ ት ፡ ይ ዘ ህ ፡ ነ ገ ፡ ሰ ማ ለ ጊ ፡ እ ግ ጌ ት ን ፡ መ ጣ ፡ ይ ሁ ን ፡ መ ና ገ ሻ ፡ ጌ ር ሰ ፡ በ ታ ፋ ሣ ለ ፡ ሰ ፲ ፩ ቀ ን ፡ በ መ ና ገ ሻ ፡ ሰ ፌ ር ፡ ተ ጸ ፌ ። ሰ ፣ ፫ ፻ ፸ ፯ ፡ ዓ መ ተ ፡ ሞ ሐ ረ ት ።

229. Salisbury to Menilek II
"London" 12 January 1898

ለ፫፡ ፕር፡ ፲፰፻፺

ሰላም። ከሎርድ፡ ሳሊስበሪ፡

ለንጉሰ፡ነገሥት፡ ኢትዮጲያ፡

ምኒሊክ፡ ዳግማዊ።

ክንሆይ፡ ስለ፡መግባቦና፡መግባስታችን፡ያለው፡

ፍቅር፡ይህ፡ሰንነገርዎት።ይገባል።

ከሊቃ፡ከብዳሳ፡ታሳቅ፡የዴርቄሽ፡ሥር፡

ይዞ፡የምስሩ፡ወታደር፡ብርብር፡ያለው፡ሌ

ወጋ፡ተነስትዋል።ይህም፡ወሬ፡በደረሰ፡ግዙ

ለንግስታች፡መግግስት። ከንግሊዙ፡ወታ

ደር፡የምስር፡ጠባቂ፡ሹሌ፡ሰ.ያግዝ፡

ታዝዋል። በሱም፡ፈንታ፡ሌሳ፡ከንግሊ

ዝ፡ከገር፡ሌሳ፡ሥር፡ተነስትዋል፡ለምስ

ር፡ጠባቂ፡ሊሆን፡ ለጠርጠርም፡ለሐደ

ው፡ሥር፡ደጀን፡ከንደሆን።

ከነም፡ይህ፡ወሬ፡ተሉ፡በጣዘ፡መስደዴ፡

ለጀንሆይ፡ለሳ፡ነገር። ከንደዴመስለው

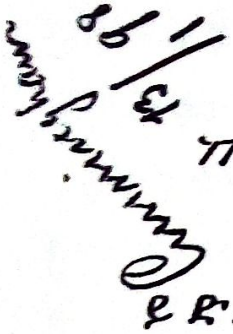
ይህ፡ስሌ፡ማድረጋችን። የዚህም፡ወሬ፡

የሌሳም፡ነገር፡ሆነ፡ከርስወም፡የሚፈልጉት፡

ከዶ፡ለጌንቶ፡ወዴ፡ከተማዋ፡ሊመጣ፡

ጀንሆይን፡ያጣውታል።

230. Cunningham to Menilek II
Aden 13 January 1898



ከ ድንቤል፡ ከተማ፡

የሸዳን፡ ዋና፡ ገዥ፡

ይድረስ፡

ከ ክቡር፡ወዳጄ፡ንጉስ፡ዘሸትሱ፡ቅዱስ፡

ምኒሊክ፡ ደግ ማሚቄ፡

ሥላንተ፡ ደስ፡ይሰኝ፡ ከሎሬድ፡ሳልስበሪ፡በይፕር፡ፒደግ

የተሳነ፡ ስልክ፡ልስድልወት።

ሥላማረ ክብሬር፡ ጠና፡ ይስጥልኝ።

የሸዳን፡ገዥ፡

ተጻፈ፡በ ጂፕር፡ ፲፰ኖን.

231. Mondon-Vidailhet to Menilek II
Paris 16 January "1898"

ትሀጸሕ ፡"ነገ፡ ሥዩመ፡ ኢጣሊአክሒር፡ ሊግጣቂ፡ ምኒለክ ፡ንጉሠ ፡ነገሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ ዩተላክ ፡ክ ሙሴ፡ ሞገ፱።

፱ንገ ፡ሆይ፡

ክ፱ኒሁቲ ፡ ወ፱ ፡ ፱ንሆይ፡ የላከሁ ፡ ፮ ፱ክ፱ሬ ፡ ፱ሃኖ፡ በ፱ረ ሱለዋ፡ ተስፋ ፡ አለኻ ። እሁንም፡ ፓሪስ ፡ ከተማ ፡ ደርሼአለሁ። ኢሰክ ፡ እሁን ፡ መፍሔ፡ ብዙ ፡ ሰጋለ ክም፡ ብዙ ፡ ክፉ ፡ አለሆ ነም ። ከሁሉ ፡ ነገር ፡ በፊት፡ ሃኪሞችን ፡ እ፱ቄ ፡ ባይፅ ፡ ወስ ም ፡ ያለ ፡ ክፉ ፡ ነገር፡ ከልገጠ ፡ ስለወሰ፱ኩ። [illegible] ለሁ ፡ እ፮ግ፡ አስጭባርቻለሁ፡ የግዜር ፡ ፈቃዱ ፡ ይሁን።—

የኢንግሊዞች ፡ጉ፱ይ ፡በአፍሪካ ፡ለ፱ንሆይ፡ የሰ፱ይሁ፡ ወሬ፡ ሁሉ ፡ በጠም ፡ እውነት፡ ነበር ። በውጋን፱ ፡ የሚበለ ፡አገር፡ ብዙ ፡ያስቸግሩሉ ፡ ከዚገድ ። ፮ አምበለ ፡ ሞገበሣ ፡ ነ፱ይ፱ሉች። ደግሞ ፡ ፬ ነገር ፡ በፊትዋ ፡ ነግረው ፡ ሌላ ፡ ነገር ፡ በምስጢር፡ ሠርተው ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወ፱ ፡ ሰለዚህ ፡ ይፈኬሉ ።

፱ንሆይን ፡ ለበዕ ኽነግለ ፡ ዘይገን ፡ ከተማ ፡ ለመስጠት ፡ ይሰ ግሉ ፡ ይላሉ። እዚህ ፡ በረከት ፡ ስለ ፡ ፱ንሆይና ፡ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወ፱ ፡ ጅነት ፡ እይ፱ለም ፡ ዘይላን ፡ ሊሰጡለዋ ፡ ማን ፡ ይመ ህጋለ ፡ የኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሳይለ ፡ ወ፱ ፡ በሕር ፡ እይ፱ለም ፡ እን ፱ን ፡ ለኢትዮጵያ ፡ ወደር ከሀገን ፡ ሰዎተው ፡ መሮ ከሀገን ፡ ማን፡ ይጠቀጋለ። ጥጋት ፡ ልሚፈለጉ ፡ መከንይት ፡ ነው ፡—

አጼ ዮሐንስ ትላንት የሐሩካንሬ ሁለት በሌሐንሲስ ለወከሪውት ሴት አለከለሁ ፰ የወራሱ ይለንክለ ማለት አለበት።

ከወንዲጪ ከወራሴ ኪርሃ ጋራ በጠም ተንሳኽሃ እንዲግ ይለ አለኝ ይር ጥሪት ታጥ ሃበር ዘሬ ሂህ ና ናቸው። ከዚህ ሰሞንት ወሰ ዮሴፍ ይወጣል። ጉዲይቸው ሁለ ይህና ና ቸው ሀም ጽርፃ በሱር ለመሠሬት ግን ዘሃ በጠም ሰብሰብ ለው ክርቱ ሥራ ቃለ ሠጊያም ሬለ።

ከዚህ ጥሪት ቀን መሲሕ ኩፅቅ ኢጵቅ የ ተኗንሬ ለጲንሆይ እጸፉለሁ።

እሸከርዎ መኩርሃ በኔ ከፋለ በተማሪ ሴት ፍሬንሲዊ ሂንሲ ለማወወር ቀሬ። እሰከ እሁን እርሱን ታወሪውቅ ሁለ ሃወሰንናለ።

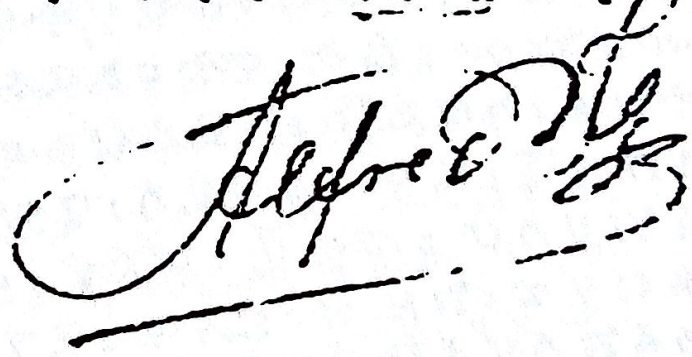
እግዚር በነና ሥራህ ለኝ ብዙ የጲንሆይ እንኳ እሳሳለሁ።

በፓሪስ ከተማ ተጸፊ በ፱ ጥር

ዳዊት ጸጋ

232. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Menilek II
Djibouti 31 January "1898"

233. Alfred Ilg to Tasammā Nādaw
Addis Ababā 2 February "1898"



234. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā
Addis Ababā 2 February "1898"

የሞላከ ፡ከ ሪሞ ይ ፡ ኢሐግ ፡ ይ ፡ ረስ ፡ ካቸ ፡ ይ በላ ፡
ሥ ፡ ጉ ፡ ኃ ፡ ሃ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሐ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሰ ፡ ሰ

235. Mondon-Vidailhet to Menilek II
Paris 8 February "1898"

ተለጸሕ፡ ሓቦ፡ ሙዮመ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡
ሂግ ሰማዊ፡ ምሉሰ ክ፡ ጌሠሠ፡ ሳንሠት፡ H
ኢትዮጵያ።

ሚኒን፡ ሀይሉ፡

ከሳኪመ፡ ቤት፡ እወጣለሁ፡ ብዓይኔ፡ ሰውከኮት፡
እነበሂለን፡ ብለው፡ እኛ፡ ሀገሩ፡ ጉዳይ፡ ተሠርቶ ዋለ።
ያዚያ፡ ሳኪሞች፡ እንቤት፡ ከርቱ፡ ብለሳታቸው፡
ሳው። ከሰንጠ፡ ቱፍ ር፡ ብእውሳት፡ ምንም፡ ምን
ም። እለሰማሁም። ጠቅላ፡ ይሸሉኛለ፡ በእጣሮ፡
ፈታይ፡ ለሚኒን ሀይሉ፡ ውቃቤ፡ ከሱ፡ ታሰቃ፡ አለኝ።

ሁሉ፡ ያገሬኮን፡ ታላላች፡ እቤቱ አለሁ፡ ሚኒስትሮች
በሁሉ፡ ላይ፡ ወሬ፡ ሳናቋ፡ የሚሉት፡ የውጭ፡ ጉዳይ፡
ሚኒስትሩ፡ ሚኒሀይሉ፡ አመሰገኑ፡ ታላቅ፡ ንጉሥ፡
ናቸው፡ ብለው። የሁሉ፡ ነገሮች፡ ለሚኒሀይሉ፡ ጊዜ፡
ሁሉ፡ ፍትር፡ እኛ፡ ፣ ያመሰሉለ። ፲ ሳንቲ፡ ከቻ፡ ይለ
ምናሉ፡ የፈረንሳ፡ ከኢትዮጵያ፡ ጉጣሁ፡ እናደያሁግ።
የእንግሊዞች፡ ተንኰለ፡ ይፈሩሉ፡ እንሂይ፡ ብለው፡
ኢትዮጵያን፣ ለበወነት፡ ይፈለጋሉ። አትፈሩ፡ ብቤ፣

ዝሬ . የ እ ት ዮ ጲ ያ ፡ መ ን ግ ሥ ት ፡ ሃ ገ ር ቱ ፡ ለ ን
ግ ሥ ት ፡ ሳ ው ፡ መ ለ ሰ ሁ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ያ ስ ፡ አ ለ ቸ ው ።

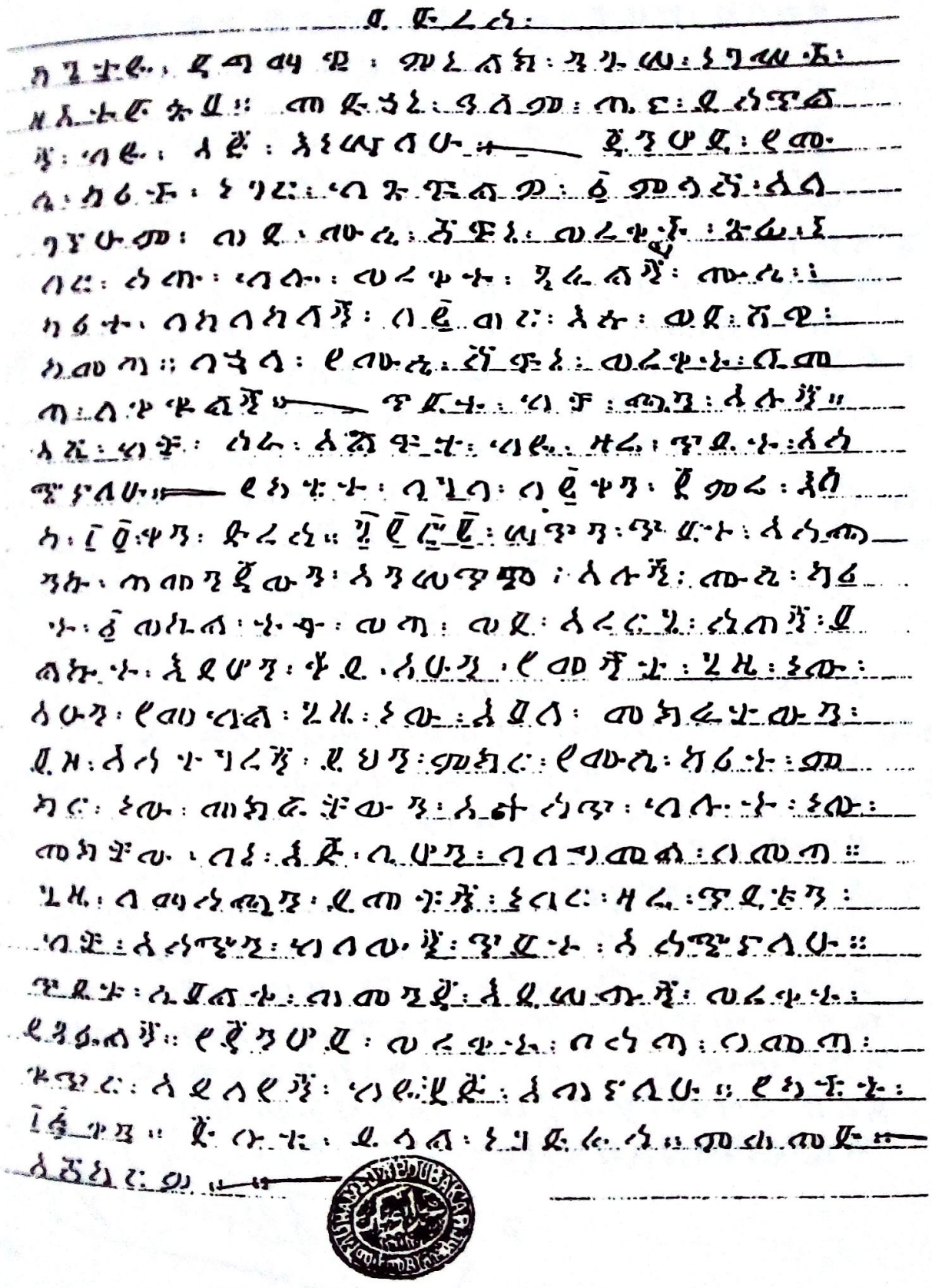
እ ዚ ህ ፡ ወ ሬ ዛ ት ፡ እ ስ ኪ ያ ድ ር ስ ፡ ባ ፊ ት ፡ ለ ሙ ሴ ፡
ሽ ፍ ና ፡ ወ ሃ ፡ ያ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ይ ሆ ና ሉ ። የ ዘ ይ ላ ፡ ሹ ሞ ች ፡
~~ሰ ማ ሊ ዮ ች~~ ፡ በ ያ ሌ ቱ ፡ ቅ ር ጫ ፡ ሃ ሉ ፡ ሳ ማ ሊ ዮ ች ፡
እ ን ሂ ሸ ፌ ቱ ፡ መ ከ ሩ ዋ ቸ ው ። ሃ ዚ ህ ፡ ጉ ሃ ይ ፡ ለ መ ከ
ሊ ያ ች ፡ የ ም ሁ ር ፡ ባ ሉ ር ፡ ነ ው ። ሙ ሴ ፡ ሰ ፍ ሳ ፡
የ ዘ ህ ን ፡ ጉ ሃ ይ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ሳ ያ ን ሠ ይ ፡ ጋ ር ፡ ይ ጨ ው
ግ ሉ ።

እ ዚ ህ ን ፡ ወ ሬ ቱ ን ፡ ያ ን ሠ ይ ፡ እ ን ሂ ሃ ሰ ብ ኩ ለ ኝ ፡ ወ ሬ
ሠ ን ም ፡ እ ን ሂ ለ ኩ ለ ኝ ፡ ጸ ፊ ፡ አ ለ ሁ ። እ ግ ሬ ፡ ባ ነ ን ፡
ይ ሰ ጥ ለ ኝ ፡ ለ መ ን ፋ ነ ት ፡ ያ ለ ቃ ን ፡ ሃ ገ ሬ ፡ እ ን ፡ ኑ
ፋ ሣ ለ ሁ ።

በ ፓ ሪ ስ ፡ ኮ ቱ ማ ፡ ሰ ፔ ያ ቱ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ።

ሞ ገ ዲ ን

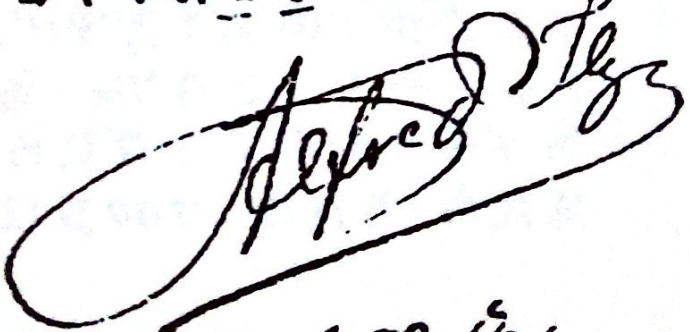
236. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Menilek II
Djibouti 22 February "1898"



237. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā & Ergaṭē
Addis Ababā 4 March "1898"

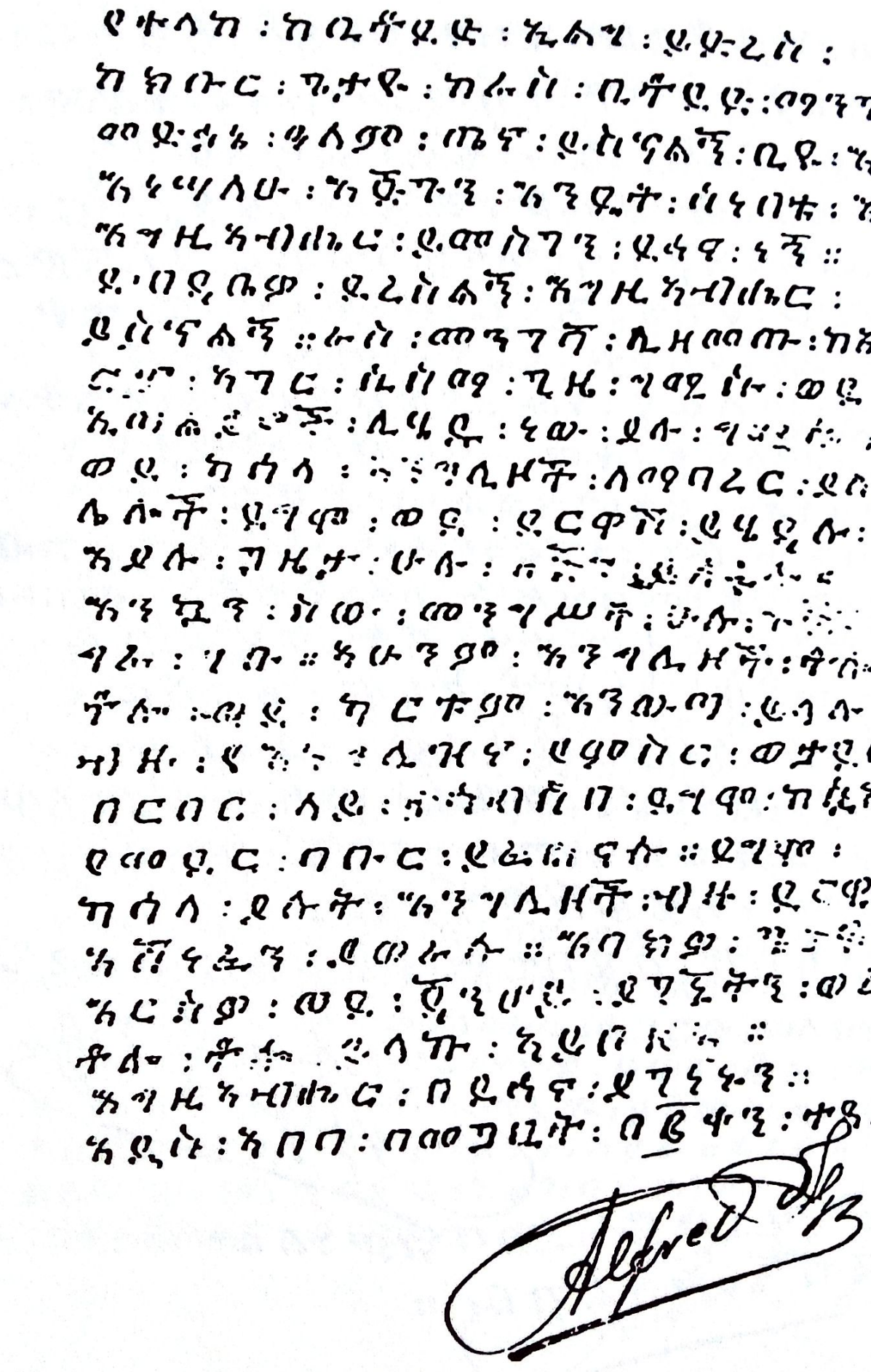
ወሩላከ ፡ ከቢቸሂሃ ፡ ኢሉግ ፡ ይሂረስ ፡ ካቸ ፡ ይበላ ፡
ከሎ ፡ ሄርግበጌ ፡ ሓይጉን ፡ ሄንሂሎ ፡ ሰሩበታቹ ፡ ሄሩ ፡
ሜላዘ.ካላበሬር ፡ ይለመስገን ፡ ሂሩና ፡ ኑኝ ።
ጅሀ ፡ ይብሃሂ ቤ ፡ ሄናንቸ ፡ ጋ ፡ ሲሂርስ ፡ በሂሩና ፡
ጀጌሎቱ ፡ ንብቹ ፡ ና ፡ ሉይዘ ፡ ፍሪዮ ሪሀን በሂሩና ፡
ሎሎበ ለላቹ ፡ ቢዮ ፡ ዛስገቹ ፡ አለኝ ። አሁን ፡ ሄብሂረ ካላበሬር ፡
ይሂላሎ ፡ በሂሩና ፡ ሄኖ ፡ ዘሂሂ ፡ ሂይርስ ሰቹ ። ከለመንግይ ፡
ሮሎ ፡ አይሂረ ፡ ሉይዘ ፡ ቸሉ ፡ ቸሉ ፡ ሄኖ ፡ ዘንይ ፡
ሄንይሂይርስ ፡ ይሁሂ ። ሂብሎ ፡ የ ወሎሬ ፡ ሰ ወሬረ ፡ ሎብንሂት ፡
ከና ቸተ ፡ ጋ ፡ ቀአለሮር ፡ ሊያሎ ፡ ሃለቹ ፡ ሄንይሆሂ ፡
ተይሎ ጠ ፡ ሂገር ፡ ብሂ ፡ በሉይዘ ፡ ይንኪንጎ ፡ አይሆንይሎ ፡
ለቢቹ ፡ ይንሂንጎ ፡ ሂ ፡ አለሽ ከርቹ ፡ አለሹ ፡ ሄንይሆሂ ፡
ነው ፡ ሄንይኝ ። ይብሎ ፡ ዛ ፡ ሄ ፡ ሂስት ፡ ሄንይሆሂ ፡
ሄይሆሂዘ ። ሄንይ ፡ ብ ፡ ቸመሉ ፡ ቢቹ ፡ ይበ ጠሎ ። ሉለት ፡
ታበት ፡ ብለመል ፡ አለኝ ፡ ሃለቹ ፡ ሄንይሆሂ ፡ ሄቹ ፡ አትበቹ ።
ነ ቹር ፡ ሬበዘ ፡ ለበንይ ፡ አይሆንይ ። ሌለ ፡ ሰው ፡
የ ቹር ለመሬ ቹ ፡ ሄንይሆሂ ፡ አይሆንይ ። ሉሉ ፡ አዘሽ ፡
ይ ሆሂለሎ ፡ ብሬ ፡ ይ ብ ባሹቅል ። ቢቹ ወንጌ ፡ የሂይቹ ፡
ነ ይሆሂ ፡ ሄንይ ፡ ፈሩይቹ ፡ ሉሂይቹ ። በለዘህ ፡
ሄይሬ ፡ ልቹ ፡ ይመለቹ ፡ ሄናንቸ ፡ ስለሉመ ፡ ይረስ ፡
ሄይቹ ፡ አይረግ ፡ ሉበቢሂሉለቹ ። አይሬ ፡ አይሬ ።
ይብሂ ፡ ሉይዘ ፡ ሄንይ ፡ ይረሰለቹ ፡ ቸሉ ፡ ይብይቢቤ ፡ ዓልሩ ፡
ይይረስ ፡ ከለብሂይመ ፡ ኢሉግ ፡ ሉ በለ ፡ ለ ለመ ፡ ስ ፡ መሂቹ ፡
በለበ ፡ አይሬ ፡ ሉ በለ ፡ ከለመ ፡ ሳጋርሂ ፡ ለመለ ዓለሉቹ ፡
ጋ ሬ ፡ ሄ ፡ ሂይመጣ ፡ ኢየሱሰሄ ፡ ይሁን ። ቸሉ ፡ ቸሉ ፡
ቢቹ ፡ ይብይቢቤ ፡ ለ ጠ ፡ ስ ፡ ለብሂቹ ፡ ይ ለ ጠ ፡ የ ለመ ፡
ላጋርሂ ፡ ለመል ዓለሉ ቹ ፡ ብ ይሂሂሄ ፡ አይሬ ። ለ ሂረርቹ ፡
ይረስ ፡ ይብ ለመ ፡ ሂ ፡ በይቢቤ ፡ ሄ ልዓለ ባቹ ለ ሰ ።
አይሂ ፡ አለበ ፡ በ ሂ ለ ሉ ፡ በ ፲፰፻፺ ቱ ።

238. Alfred Ilg to Tasammā Nādaw
Addis Ababā 7 March "1898"



Documents

239. Alfred Ilg to Mangašā Atikam
Addis Ababā 10 March "1898"



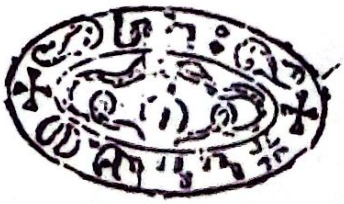
240. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 31 March "1898"

መኒ፡ እኁበ፡ ዘእምነግዩ ይሁኒ፡ ዲግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ ሠይመ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ዚኁ ሠ፡ነግሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵ ያ። ይዅ ረሰ፡ከ ቢቶ ይዅ፡ኢልግ ፡፡ከነ ራሲ፡ መዘ፡ ገኒ፡ ዘነ ጹ፡ ይብ ይቢ፡ መ ጣ፡ አብ ይር ሁማኒ፡ አባረ ው፡ አ ምዐ ጣ ውኒም፡ ሰብረ ው፡ እስ ተ ማ ው፡ ኮቀም ጠዋል።፡ይዲኒ ነቻ ቸውግ፡ ቅሰ ማ ው፡ ዝዬ፡ነው።፡፡በ መጋ ቢ ት፡ በኔ ር ቀ ኒ፡ ባጂ ስ፡ አበባ፡ ከተ ማ፡ ተሄረ፡

241. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred IIg
"Ḥarargē" 9 June "1898"

ደጁ፤ለስ፡ከከቡር፡ወዲ፤ፍ፡ከ ሙ-ሴ፡ኤልግ።
የተላከ፡ከራ ስ፡መ ኰ ግ ፡—
እንዲ.ት፡ሰግ-ብተ ላል። ጠ.ና ህ ግስ፡እ ግ ዲ፡ም
ግ፡ነህ። ኤኒ፡እ ዝ እ-ወ ሒር፡ደ መ ሰ ግ ግ፡ደ ላ ና፡
ነ ኝ ። ሚ ስ ት ህ ስ፡-ብ ር ቱ፡ እ ደ ዲ ለ ች ም ግ ፡እ ግ ዲ፡
ም ግ ፡ነ ች ።— ደ ቸ ግ ፡እ ግ ተ፡ዘ ግ ድ፡ ደ ለ ች ዋ ግ ፡
የ ኒ ግ ፡ጠ መ ግ ፍ፡ በ-ዋ ሱ ፡-ተ በ ፍ ታ፡ ሣ ጥ ግ ዋ ፡እ
ዛ ኽ ፡ወ ል ጊ ዮ ር ጊ ስ ፡ዘ ግ ድ፡ እ ሲ ና ፡ በ ሱ ፡ተ ከ ታ ፡
በ-ዋ-ሱ ፡እ ግ ድ ት መ ጣ ል ኝ፡ ዲ ሁ ግ ፡እ ደ ራ ህ ግ ።
ካ ር ታ ው ግ ም ፡ከ ኢ ጣ ል ደ ው ፡ጋ ራ ፡ተ ስ ማ ም ታ ች
ሁ ፡እ በ ፍ ታ ች ሁ ፡ሲ ሆ ግ ፡እ ኛ ግ ሆ ይ ፡ሬ ት ፡ሆ ና ች
ሁ ፡ጨ ር ሳ ች ሁ ፡እ ስ ዚ ደ ም ፡እ ና ግ ተ ው ፡ጨ ር
ሳ ች ሁ ፡እ በ ፍ ታ ች ሁ ፡እ ሱ ም ፡እ ካ ር ታ ው ፡ሳ ይ ፡
ማ ሳ ተ ሙ ግ ፡እ ት ም በ ት ፡በ-ዋ ሱ ፡ጨ ር ሰ ህ ፡ሳ
ክ ል ኝ ፡እ ደ ራ ህ ግ ። የ ኒ ም ፡ሰ ዎ ች ፡እ ታ ች ፡ደ ዘ ው
የ ሚ ወ ር ዱ ት ግ ፡ደ ብ ዲ ቤ ፡ ከ ኢ ጣ ል ደ ው ፡ተ ቀ
ብ ለ ህ ፡በ-ዋ-ሱ ፡ሳ ክ ብ ኝ ፡እ ደ ራ ህ ግ ።———

ደ ግ ሞ ፡ደ ል ቁ ግ ም ፡ደ ግ ተ ግ ፡ደ ሳ ግ ነ ት ና ፡የ ሚ
ሰ ት ህ ግ ፡-ብ ር ታ ት ፡ሳ ክ ብ ኚ ። በ ሰ ኔ ፡በ ፫ ቀ ግ ፡
ተ ጻ ፈ ።—



242. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 14 June 1898

ደ ጅ ረ ሰ ፡ ከ ቢ ሯ ደ ጅ ፡ ኤ ልግ ፡
እ ነ ዚ ያ ፡ እ ን ግ ሊ ዝ ኛ ፡ ከ መ ጡ ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ቀ ና ጮ ው
ነ ው ። ከ ኔ ፡ ሳ ይ ግ ና ኙ ፡ አ ሰ ር ፡ ቀ ን ፡ ደ ህ ል ፡ ሆ
ና ቸ ው ። እ ን ዲ ደ ከ ፉ ፡ ዛ ሬ ፡ እ ን ኳ ፡ በ ፲ ሰ
ዒ ት ፡ ቢ ገ ና ኙ ፡ ደ ሻ ል ፡ እ ን ደ ሆ ነ ፡ ደ ህ ነ ፡ እ
ን ት ፡ ት ሰ ጣ ው ፡ ብ ዬ ፡ ነ ው ። ፡ በ ሰ ኔ ፡ በ ፲ ቀ
ን ፡ በ ሐ ጌ ሰ ፡ እ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፡ በ ፲ ፲ ፪ ኛ ዓ መ ተ ፡
ም ሕ ረ ቱ ፡ ተ ጻ ፌ ።

243. Menilek II to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 25 June 1898

ሞ ኅ ፡ እ ግ በ ሳ ፡ ዘ እ ም ነ ግ ሥ ፡ ጌ ሁ ፡ ዳ ኅ ማ ዊ ፡ ም ኒ ል ክ ፡ ለ
ዱ መ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ኄ ጉ ሠ ፡ ነ ግ ሠ ት ፡ ዘ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ።
ደ ጉ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ራ ስ ፡ መ ኰ ንን ፡ እ ኄ ሊ ት ፡ ሰ ኘ ብ ተ ሃ ል ፡ ። እ ኔ ፡
እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ይ መ ለ ግ ሄ ፡ ደ ኅ ና ፡ ነ ኝ ። ፡ ፊ መ ስ ክ ው ፡ ለ
ሙ ሌ ፡ ከ ሆ ፍ ሰ ኪ ፡ እ ኄ ድ ፡ ሬ ሬ ስ ፡ ከ ነ ቃ ው ፡ እ ኄ ዱ ት
ሰ ጠ ው ፡ ይ ሁ ኄ ። ፡ በ ሰ ኔ ፡ በ ፲ ፱ ቀ ኄ ፡ በ ሐ ጌ ሰ ፡ እ በ ባ ፡ ከ
ተ ማ ፡ ባ ፲ ፲ ፪ ኛ ዓ መ ተ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ቱ ፡ ተ ጻ ሬ ።

Traduction par le gouverneur

244. Yebsā to Alfred Ilg
"Addis Ababā" 1 July "1898"

ዊ ቱላስ፡ ከሸሊቻ፡ ፱ ኳሶ፡ ፱ ድ ረስ፡ ከመ-ሲ፡
ኢ ልግ፡ — ወደ፡ መ-ሲ፡ ከ ም ቦ ለ፡ የ ጢ ሂድ፡ ሀ
ቻ፡ አ ገ ድ፡ አ ሞ ሌ፡ ሰ ግ-ኖ ።።

ሁ ለቷ፡ አ ሞ ሌ፡ ሱ ካ ር፡

አ ም ሣ፡ ነ ርጭ፡ መ ኳ ረ ቷ ።።

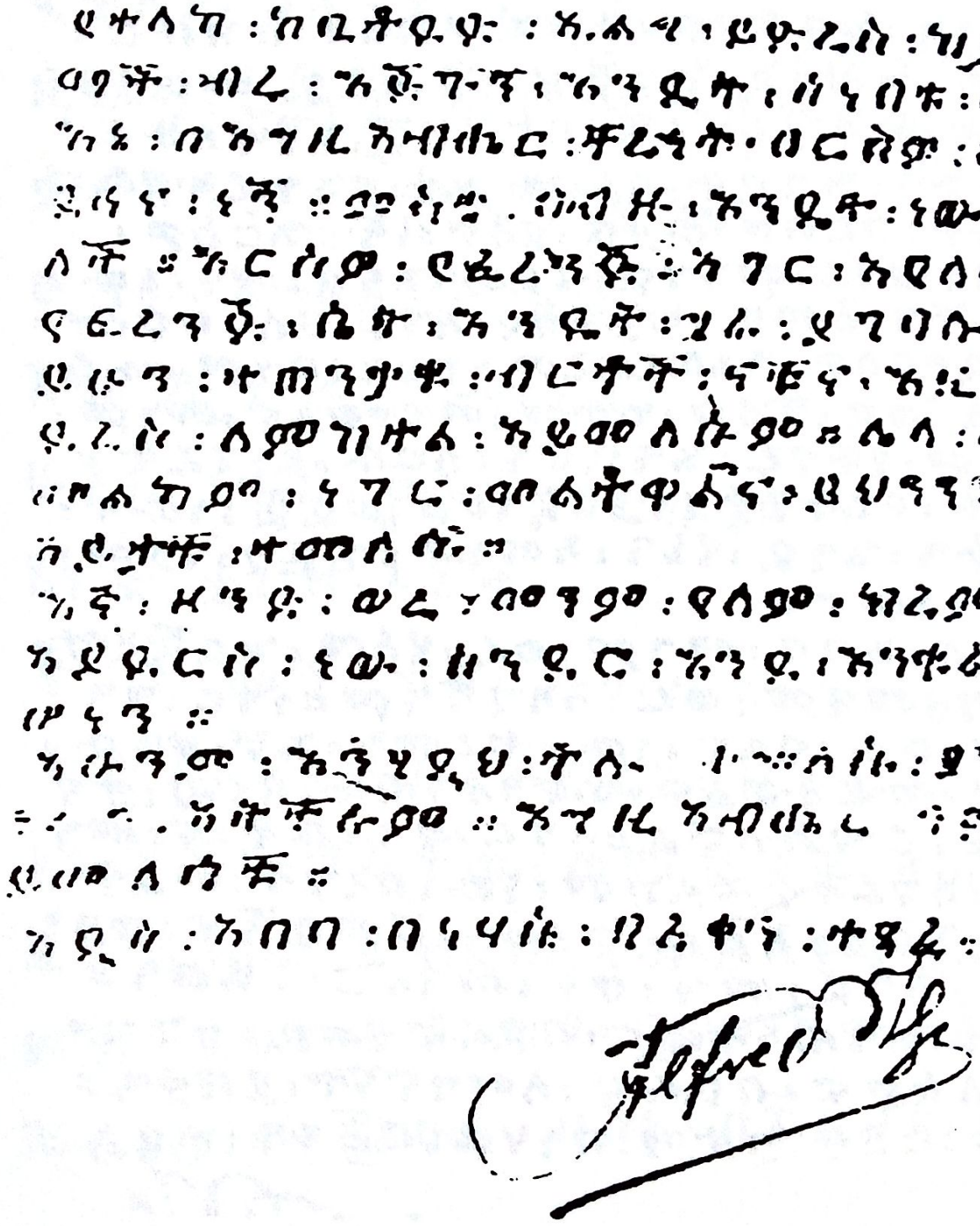
ሁ ለት፡ ነ ጥ ር፡ ቆ ገ ደ፡ በ ር በ ሬ፡

አ ገ ድ፡ ታ ሊ ካ፡ አ ረ ቄ፡

ሁ ለቷ፡ መ ጭ፡ ኳ ር፡ ፱ ህ፡ ሁ ሉ፡ እ ዚ ሃ፡ ቱ ሰ ና
ድ ቷ ለ ።። ደ ግ ሞ፡ ፮ ፍ ረ ፱፡ ዲ ረ ጉ ቱ፡ ቡ ና ሞ፡
አ ገ ፱ ይ ት ገ ራ ቸ ው፡ ወ ደ፡ ፱ ፮ ቹ፡ ገ ኳ ረ፡ እ ግ
ዚ አ ኳ ሐ ር፡ ፱ ኳ ፱ ቤ፡ ተ ድ ፎ ለ ቸ ዋ ል ።። እ ር ሷ
ዋ ሞ፡ ፱ ህ ገ፡ ሁ ሉ፡ ወ ደ፡ መ-ሲ፡ ከ ም ቦ ለ፡ አ ገ ፱
ድ ፋ ለ ቸ ው፡ ፱ ሁ ገ ።። በ ሰ ኔ፡ በ ፮ ፫ ቀ ን፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ።።

245. Alfred Ilg to Waldē Aššāgrē
Addis Ababā 10 August "1898"

246. Alfred Ilg to Berru Ḫayla Māryām
Addis Ababā 10 August "1898"



247. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Ǧehur Camp 6 November 1898

ሞዓ፡እንበሳ፡ዘእምነገደ ፡ይሁዳ ፡ዳግማዊ ፡ምኒልክ ፡ሠሬ ጠ ፡እግ
ዚእብሔር፡ንጉሠ ፡ነገሥት ፡ዘኢትዮጵያ ። ይ ድረስ ፡ክቢዎደ ድ፡
ኢልግ፡እግዴት ፡ሰግብትሃል ፡እኔ ፡እግዚአብሔር ፡ይ ጠለግ፡ደሀና ፡ነች
የሙሴ ፡ለጋርዳን ፡ነገር ፡እኔ ም ፡ደብዳቤ ፡ልኪበታለሁ ።
የሙሴ ፡ሽፍኒግም ፡ነገር ፡ዘረ ፡ምላሹን ፡ያለክሁብህ ፡እጉዞ ፡ላይ ፡
ሆኖ ፡ችኮለ ፡ቢሆንብኝ ፡ነ ው ።ሁሉንግ ፡ስናርፍ ፡እልክብሃለሁ ።
ይህነን ፡እንኳ ፡ጠላኪ ፡ደብዳቤህ ፡መድረሱን ፡ለማሳታወቅ ፡ነ ው ፡
ዳችቹ ፡ብራንግ ፡እነሱው ፡እንዴልክው ፡ይከ ው ፡ሰድጂዋለሁ ።
በ ጥቅምት ፡በ፳፰ቀን ።በ፲፱ዓ፭ ፡ዓመተ ፡ምሕረት ፡ሩጫ ፡
በቅ ሁር ፡ሰራ ር ፡

248. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 15 November 1898

ሞዓ፡ ለዓበሳ፡ ዘ እመ፲ንግ፩፡ ዳሁ፩ ... ያ፡ኖል ክ፡ ሠፍጠ፡ እግዞለ
ሒር፡ ግጉ ሠ፡፲ንግሠ ፋ፡ ዘ ኢሉሁ ዱ፩፡፡ ፩ዲ ረ ስ፡ ስቢ ሣ፩ ዱ፡ ኢል ግ፡ ስ
ንጄ ት፡ ሰ ፯ሸ ተ ሃ ል ፡ እ ፣ ፡ እ ግዞ ለ ዝ ሒ ር ፡ ፬ ፈመ ስ ገ ን ፡ ፩ ፋ ና ፡ ፣ ፱ ፡ ፦
የ ና ሱ ፡ መ ሁ ቹ ፡ መ ግ ጠ ሚ ፬ ፡ ቱ ዘ ው ኒ ል ና ፡ ፩ ኽ ው ፡ ክ ፣ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ የ መ
ግ ው ፯ ፡ የ መ ድ ቹ ፡ መ ግ ጠ ሚ ፬ ፡ ሰ ቱ ፲ ል ሃ ለ ሁ ፡ ። ፩ ፬ ፭ ፮ ፯ ፰
፩ ህ ፡ ቱ ኖ ር ፡ ፬ ለ በ ት ግ ፡ መ ግ ጠ ሚ ፬ ፡ ክ ና ሱ ፡ መ ቱ ቹ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ መ ር ጠ ህ ፡
ላ ዘ ኽ ፡ ግ ዞ ው ፡ ሰ ፕ ቱ ኽ ው ፡ ሩ ል ፡ እ ግ ፲ ፣ መ ጣ ል ኝ ፣ ፩ ሁ ግ ። ። እ መ
ግ ጠ ሚ ፬ ው ፭ መ ፡ ው ሰ ኑ ፡ የ ሚ ሆ ሃ ው ፡ መ ጻ ፋ ፡ እ ጊ ጻ ፡ እ ለ ና ፡ እ ም
ሰ ት ፡ መ ጿ ፋ ፡ ከ ዚ ሁ ፡ ክ መ ግ ጠ ሚ ፬ ው ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ ሰ ፩ ቱ ል ኝ ፡ ፡ ፡ —
በ ሳ ጻ ር ፡ ለ ፮ ቀ ኔ ፡ ላ ፲ ፲ ፮ ፱ ፯ ፭ ዛ ወ ሉ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ሱ ፡ ፡ ፡ —
በ ወ ረ ኢ ለ ፡ ከ ሃ ጣ ፡ ሃ ፭ ሬ ፡ ፡

249. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

ሞኅ፡ኦኝ በሰ፡ ዞኦ ኅዐነግደ፡ ይሁደ፡ ደኅማቂ፡ምኦፌክ፡ ሠዩመ፡ ኦኅዞ ኦኽሔር፡ ዃጉሠ፡ነንሠት፡ ዞኢትዮጵያ፡፡

ይጵፈሰ፡ ከበቸደይ፡ ኤፎኳ፡ ኦኝ ጺቱ፡ ሰኝኻኑሃፊ፡ኦኔ፡ኦኅዞ ኦኽሔር፡ደመዐ ሠነግኝ፡ ደፋናን፡ነኚ፡፡ በጥቅምት፡ በ፳፰ ቀኝ፡ ኅደስ፡ኦበባ፡ ከተ ወኅ፡ ዩተጻፈ፡ደክደቤህ፡ደረሸልኚ፡፡

ወደ፡ሙሴ፡ሐሪዯጭኝ፡ዩ መጺፎከ ውኄ፡ደክደበ፡ ጽፈህ፡ዩኦ ከህፎኚኝ፡ ኦሱ ምኦ፡ ደ ሬዚኒ ወኑህኝ፡ ቃል፡ሁሉ፡ዩ ኦክህህኚኝ፡ ኦ ዩሁት፡ለመኦ ካ ምኦ፡ኑ ው፡፡ ኦኔ ምኦ፡ ወ ደሱ ው፡ ምኦሹኝ፡ጽፈ፡ ፊኪበታ ኦሀ፡፡ ሙሴ፡ኸ ዯኒ፡ ፴ ሣ፡ኦ ምዐ ሣ፡ ሣጥኝ፡ ክር፡ ፊ ኪ ኦኦሁ፡ ክ ሏፎ፡ ደ ፊ ክ ው ኄ ም፡ ራሰ፡ ለመ ኑ፠ዄንኄ፡ኦሰ በመ ጣ፡ ክ ዩ፡፡ ኄ ኅ ሥሞ ኦሁ፡፡ በ ኅ ደ ር፡በ፫ ቀኝ፡ ባ ፣ ፫ የ ኝ ፮ ኅ በመ ወ ተ፡ ኅ ዐ ሐ ረ ኍ፡፡ በ ወ ረ ሃ ኡ፡ክ ሳ ወ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ።

250. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

ማሳ፡ እግሸሽ ፡ ይሁዲ፡ ሃግማ
ቄ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ሐሤ ወዲ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ዓ
ጉሠ፡ነግሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ። ይድረስ፡ ከ
ቢዯ ይድ፡ ኢጂግ፡ እግይዲኑ፡ ሰዓብቱኳልእ
ኔ፡ እግዚ.አብሔር፡ይመስግኣ፡ዯፋኖ፡ነኝ።
ሙሴ፡ኢዎጣቄጥና፡ጭርሲ፡ያርልያኣ፡መጥ
ኑ ቀዴ፡ ጠለኑ፡ሰ ጣሁ፡ነግር፡ግኣ፡እኬም፡ግ
ሰኣ፡ ይር ሴ፡ ሯሎ፡ የምጠለስ፡ነኝና፡ወ ዯዜ
ህ፡ እ ይምጡ፡እዚያ ወ፡ እ ይስ፡እበጣ፡እኣዲ
ቹ ኪ፡ ይሁ ን። በፋ ር፡በ ኵ ክዓ፡በወረ ይ
ሉ፡ ከተጣ፡ኑ ጂ ሬ ። ባ ፣ ኵ ፳ ኣ ፩ ፋ መት፡ምሉ
ረኑ።

251. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

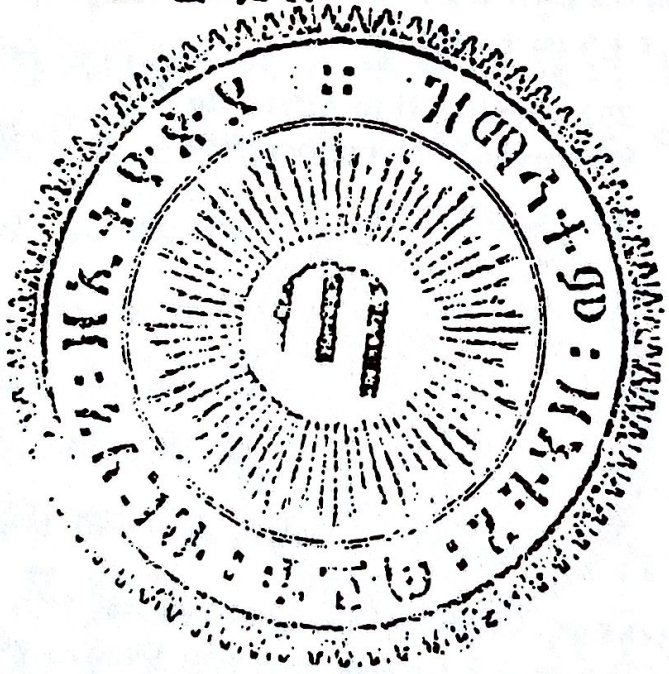
ሞዓ ፡ እግበሳ፡ ዘእምነገደ፡ ይሁዳ፡ደቂቃማዊ፡ መኤልክ፡ሠ
ራመ፡ኦሪዚአብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይድረስ፡ከቢጥያጽ፡ኢጶጣ፡እግዚ ት፡ሰፃብተሃል፡እኔ፡
እግዚአብሔር፡ይመሰገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ።፡ጥረፃስ፡ደ
ርልያን፡የሰደደልኝ፡ጠበፃደ፡ካፃት፡ይብደቢ፡ጋራ፡
ይመጣልኖል፡ብዬ፡ነበር፡ኦሁን ም፡እንደ መጣልኝ፡
ይሁሂ።፡በፋያር፡በፐቀን፡በወደያ ኡ፡ነሐሴ ፡ሃያ፡ሦስ
ት፡ቀን፡ጽፌ፡ላኩለት።

252. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

ሞዓ፡እየበሳ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁ ዲ፡ደቂቃማዊ፡ምኒ
ልክ፡ሠይመ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሠ
ት፡ዘኢት ዮጵያ። ይድረስ፡ከቢጥይድ፡ኢ
ልግ፡እንዲት፡ሰ ጊብተሃል፡እኔ፡እግዚአብ
ሔር፡ይመሰገን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ። ሙሴ፡ኮምቦ
ልን፡ሠራ ፡እንዲይፈታ፡ብለህ፡የለክህብሻ ን፡
የብር፡ነገር፡ ወዲ፡አዛኝ፡ግዛው፡ልኩልሃ
ለሁ ።ሰኝደር፡በፐ የንፃ ፅዓ መተ፡መሐረት፡በ
ወረደ ለ፡ከተማ ፡ተጓፊ።

253. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

ዩ ተ ላ ከ፡ ከ እ ቲ ጌ፡ ጣ ይ ቱ፡ ካ ር ሃ ኝ፡ ዘ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ።።
ይ ድ ረ ሰ፡ ከ ቢ ዯ ይ ድ፡ እ ሉ ቅ፡ እ ግ ዯ ት፡ ሰ ኔ ካ ተ
ሃ ሉ፡ እ ኔ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ካ ሒ ር፡ ይ ጠ ዕ ሰ ግ ግ፡ ደ ዛ ና፡ ነ ች።
እ ኔ ም፡ በ እ ግ ዚ አ ካ ሒ. ር፡ ቸ ር ነ ት፡ በ ደ ዛ ና፡ ወ
ረ ይ. ሉ፡ ደ ረ ስ ሁ።። ራ ሱ፡ መ ኰ ግ ኝ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ፡ ን
ግ ር ልኝ፡ ካ ሎ ኖ ል፡ ካ ሎ፡ ነ ግ ረ ኝ።፡
እ ና ኔ ተ ሱ፡ ል ጂ ሱ፡ ጤ ና ችሁ ኔ፡ እ ኝ ዯ ም ኝ፡ ና ች
ሁ።። በ ሳ ዯ ር፡ በ ፓ ቀ ን፡ ባ ፣ ፲ ፪ ፯ ፲ ፩ ፣ ጳ ጠ ሀ፡ ፳ሀ
ሕ ኤ ት።። በ ወ ረ ይ ሉ፡ ከ ተ ማ፡ ተ ኣ ፈ።።



254. Menilek II's Decree Concerning Tegrāy
Warraylu 18 November 1898

ሞዓ፡ፅንበሳ፡ዞኃምነንጹ፡ይሁዳ፡ጸጣጣዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠዊመ፡ኃይዚኣህሔር፡
ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘፈትዉ ቈያ። ሰማ፡ዊትዓረ፡ሰው።
ራስ፡መኣገሻ፡ፈትሉ፡ጸጀኽ፡ሠዉምን፡እስዒ፡ህሸመው፡ከዳኽ።
ፅሁን፡ጸዓሞ፡ኣሸሁን፡ንቅዱ፡ኣጸላጹዱ፡ሸሚው፡ህመጣ።
እነን፡እባቱን፡ወዳጁን፡ከዳኽ።
የትዓዒ፡ሰው፡እጹባራቱም፡መኪንንቱም፡ራስ፡መኣገሻ፡ሰወጸው፡ጠፈ
ኩሸፈና፡ዓፈን፡እይፈኽ።
እኒ፡ዓን፡ያደ፡ዊሐንሰን፡ወዒታ፡ኣመፈሳለሁ፡ህዊ።
መኪንንትና፡ወታጸር፡ሰይወጸው፡ሰዓጹ፡ሸሚው፡ነበርና።
መዒት፡እፈቀበለው፡ህለ፡እሰናበትኽው፡እንጂ፡እኒ፡በጅየው፡እይጸለም።
እሁንም፡የትዓዒ፡ሰው፡ወዳጁነህ።
ራስ፡መኣገሻ፡ከዳኽ፡ህዊ፡ሰሱ፡ትና ጹጂ፡እሊጠፉህም።
እዓዚ እህሔር፡የሰጠኽን፡እገዒን፡ሰጂ፡እጹርጊ፡ፈፀማሁሁ።
ጸስ፡እሰኽሃለሁ፡እይዞህ፡ዓባ። ሰያባትህ፡እትክልሃለሁ።
እባትህን፡መርቅ። ለባትህን፡ርገም።
ፈህህ፡ያሰጠውን፡የሚያጸርዓፈህን። ለባሔርያህ፡የሚሰማማህን።
ፈጂን፡ወዳጂን፡ራስ፡መኰንንን፡ሰጥቼ ሃለሁ።
ከሐረርጊ፡ጋራ፡ትዓዒኦን፡ማጹረጊ።
እንትን፡እንጂያለማህ፡እንጂጠቅምህ፡ህ፡ኣው።
የሱ፡ያሰጣች ዟፈ፡እንጂ፡ከትዓዒ፡የሚፈልገው፡ነገር፡የለም።
እራሽም፡እርሰ። ንጋ ጂ ም፡ንዓጹ።
ከዚህ፡ወዴህ፡ከመኣገሽ፡ጋራ፡የትግንህ፡ሰው፡ለነዊሰህም፡ትግዝትሃፈ።
ለሠጋህም፡እኒ፡እቆጣሃለሁ።
ርሰትህን፡ጉፈትህን፡እሰከ፲ትውፈጹ፡ጹረሰ፡ንቅዱሃለሁ።
በዓጸር፡ባ፲ቀን፡ለወረያሉ፡ከትማ፡ትጸረ።
በ፲፲ ፲ ፲ ፲ ዓመት፡ምሐረኑ።

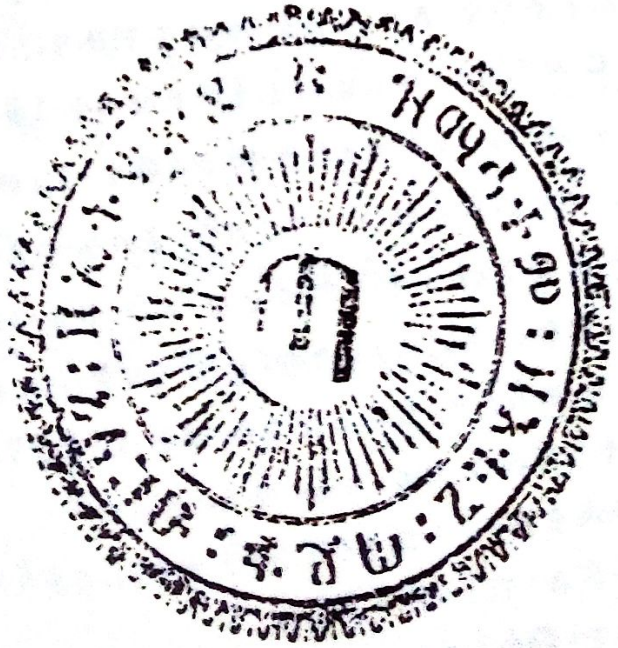
255. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 26 November 1898

ጠቃ፡ ኤጣበሳ፡ ዘእምነገሢ፡ ይሁዳ፡ ደኅጣዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ሠዱመ፡እኅጢአብሔር፡ ጓጉሠ፡ነፃሠት፡ ዘኢኑዮቃይ፡ ፡ ይቤረሕ፡ ከቢ ሥጉይ ዱ፡ ኢልግ፡ ኤግጂት፡ ሰግብተሃፈ፡ እኔ ፡ እኅጢአብሔር፡ ይመሠገጣ፡ ዚ ፋና፡ ኑሻ ፡ በኅጂር፡ ለእ ሳግ፡ ባ፲ ፹ ፻ ፱ ፩ ዓ መት፡ ሰ ጂስ፡ አለ ኅ፡ ከት ጣ፡ ሂተ ጺፈ፡ ዚ ብይቢ ሃ፡ ይ ረሰልኝ፡፡ ኑግትም፡ወ ጂ፡ ቁ ይ ፡ መ ው ረድ ከግ፡ የ ለ ክ ህ ብኝ ኅ ጣ፡ ወ ረ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ሰ ጣ ሁ ፡፡ ጨ ሲ ፡ኽ ዋ ኑ፡ የ ለ ከ ውኅ፡ የ ሰ ፊ ክ፡ ቃ ል፡ አ ፃ ሁ ት ። ራ ስ ፡ መ ኰ ግ ጊ ም፡ ፬ ቱ፡ ጪ ሊ ዋ ግ፡ ጭ ራ ጊ ክ፡ ዘ ሰ ገ ክ፡ ይ ጎ ሳ፡ ጣ ለ ቱ ኅ፡ ኦ ል ሲ ጣ ሁ ጣ፡ ኑ በ ር ። ኦ ሱ ጣ፡ ይ ዘ ግ፡ ሰ ል ክ፡ መ ም ታ ቱ፡ እ ኛ፡ የ ተ ኑ ጋ ግ ር ኑ ው ኅ ፡ ኑ ኅ ር፡ ሰ ይ ሰ ጣ፡ ይ ሠ ና ል ። ኡ ሁ ኅ ም፡ እ ፀ ኅ ክ፡ ግ ጠ ቻ ል፡ ይ ል ዘ ው፡ ኦ ራ ቱ፡ ጪ ሊ ዋ ግ፡ ጭ ራ ኅ ክ፡ እ ዚ ያ ው ፡ ኤ ግ ጂ ለ ፡ ሓ ይ ቱ፡ ወ ለ ይ ኑ፡ እ የ ተ ቀ በ ል ክ፡ እ ኛ ፡ ይ ሞ ጣ፡ ኤ ስ ክ ግ ል ፡ ድ ረ ስ ፡ ይ ቀ መ ጥ ። የ ቀ ረ ው ፡ ጊ ቱ፡ ም ሌ ዋ ግ፡ ሳ ግ ፡ ሠ ር ፡ እ የ ታ ተ ወ ፡ ቁ ሎ ፡ ቁ ሎ ፡ ይ ሞ ጣ ል ኛ ፡ ሰ ለ ፡ ኢ ስ ጭ ና ፡ ሰ ለ ፡ አ ጂ ሎ ቹ ፡ ኑ ግ ር ፡ ዕ ቃ ጭ ኅ ፡ እ ኅ ጂ ይ ወ ጣ ፡ መ ኅ ገ ድ ፡ ጠ ፋ ፡ ይ ል ክ ው ኅ ፡ ለ ጨ ሲ ፡ ለ ጋ ር ድ ም ፡ ል ኪ ቦ ታ ለ ሁ ። ሐ ረ ር ጊ ም ፡ ኢ ሉ ቲ ፡ ሹ ጣ ም ኅ ኛ ፡ ኦ ጠ ኅ ክ ረ ፡ ል ኪ ኦ ለ ሁ ። ጨ ሲ ፡ ዱ መ ት ራ ፍ ፡ የ ጪ ፀ ል ፡ መ ዕ ስ ክ ፡ ኅ ሸ ኅ ፡ ይ ለ ሞ ና ል ፡ ይ ል ክ ው ኅ ፡ ከ ዚ ያ ም ፡ ፅ ለ ሁ ፡ ኛ ኑ ራ ል ፡ ብ ለ ሸ ፍ ፡ ኦ ል ኑ የ ረ ኛ ም ። ኦ ለ ፡ ፈ ቃ ይ ፡ የ ሰ ያ ድ ጊ ለ ቱ ፡ ኤ ግ ጂ ሦ ኑ ፡ ኦ ሱ ፡ ይ ከ ፋ ብ ና ል ። ከ ጨ ሲ ፡ ሐ ረ ኅ ቃ ኅ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ የ መ ጣ ው ፡ ከ ጥ ቃ ኅ ፡ ወ ል ቢ ፡ የ ጪ ቦ ለ ው ፡ እ ግ ኅ ሊ ዝ ፡ ሰ ዙ ቀ ይ ፡ ለ ኩ ል ፡ አ ድ ር ኝ ፡ ብ ወ ለ ሞ ና ፡ በ በ ረ ይ ፡ ዘ ል ቅ ፡ ወ ይ ፡ ሮ ያ ል ፍ ፡ ባ ሐ ር ፡ ል ፂ ድ ። ይ ፍ ቀ ይ ል ኛ ፡ ብ ፈ ል ፡ ያ ል ክ ው ኅ ፡ ኦ ዘ ኛ ፡ ላ ዘ ው ፡ እ ሬ ታ ው ራ ሪ ፡ ሀ ብ ቱ ፡ ጣ ር ያ ም ፡ ዘ ኅ ድ ፡ እ ግ ጂ ያ ይ ር ስ ው ፡ ኦ ዘ ዣ ለ ሁ ። ፡ ከ ዚ ያ ም ፡ ወ ይ ያ ፡ ከ ሬ ታ ው ራ ሪ ፡ ሀ ብ ቱ ፡ ጊ ድ ር ጊ ስ ፡ ሹ ጣ ም ኅ ኛ ፡

ሸኝ፡ እየተቀበለ፡ ሮጀልፍ፡ ሳ ሕር፡ ዩ ረስ፡ የሚያጸርሰው፡ ሰው፡ ሰጅጀለ
ሁ። ሹ ማም ሓቹ ን ም፡ በው ል፡ ኡ ጠየ ክ ራ፡ ኡ ዝ ዣ ለ ሁ። ሂ ኀ ሚ፡ ሙ ሲ፡ ሕ ሪ
ኀ ሓ ን፡ የ እ ን ኀ ሊ ዝ፡ ካ ሳ ቻ ሞ ቹ፡ በ በ ር በ ራ ም፡ በ ዘ ጀ ለ ም፡ በ ኩ ል፡ እ የ ወ ጡ፡ እ
ው ራ፡ እ ኀ ጂ ያ ጅ ኑ፡ ቢ ፈ ቱ ጸ ሳ ቸ ው። ጀ ሰ፡ ጀ ለ ኝ፡ ኑ ሠ ር፡ ላ ል ል፡ ያ ል ከ ው ዩ፡ እ
ው ሬ፡ ለ ማ ጸ ን፡ ጣ ን፡ ጀ ከ ለ ከ ለ ል። ጂ ራ፡ ኀ ን፡ ሙ ሲ፡ ሐ ሪ ኀ ቱ ን፡ እ ኀ ሊ፡ እ ኀ ሊ፡
እ ው ሬ፡ ለ ያ ጅ ኑ፡ መ ጥ ኑ ቀ ል፡ ላ ሎ፡ ሰ ሞ፡ ሰ ማ ቸ ው ኀ፡ ከ ለ ዕ ታ ወ ቀ ን፡ ቢ ወ ሰ ኑ፡
ለ ሎ፡ ሹ ጣ ም ሓ ቹ፡ ለ መ ጸ ፍ፡ እ ጀ መ ቾ ም። ኑ ኀ ር፡ ኀ ኀ፡ ለ ሁ ሉ ም፡ ኑ ኀ ር፡ እ ፍ፡ ሓ
ሎ፡ እ መ ለ ሰ ለ ሁ። እ ዚ ያ ው፡ እ ኀ በ ለ ካ ከ ራ ለ ኀ። ሀ ሳ ጀ ር፡ ሰ ፤ ፫ ሐ ኀ፡ ለ ወ ረ ኢ ሉ፡
ከ ተ ጣ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ። ሳ ፤ ፫ ፱ ላ ፅ ፋ ፈ ፅ ተ፡ ም ሕ ፤ ት።

256. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 27 November 1898

የ ተ ለ ከ ፡ ከ ል ቲ ጊ ፡ ጣ ጀ ኑ ፡ ኀ ር ሃ ን ፡ ዝ ፈ ታ ቅ ል ፩
ጀ ጅ ረ ስ ፡ አ ቢ ሂ ያ ጅ ፡ ፈ ፈ ፣ ። ል ን ጂ ኑ ፡ ሰ ን ኀ ቱ ሃ
ፈ ፡ ፲ ፤ ፡ ል ኀ ዚ ል ኀ ሐ ር ፡ ጀ መ ሰ ኀ ን ፡ ያ ሃ ና ፡ ን ኝ ፩
ሰ ላ ም ታ ህ ም ፡ ያ ረ ሰ ፈ ኝ ። ወ ጂ ፡ ቁ ረ ም ፡ መ ዉ ር ጁ
ህ ን ፡ ሰ ማ ሁ ። ል ኀ ዚ ል ኀ ሐ ር ፡ ለ ያ ሃ ና ፡ ጀ መ ፈ ሰ ህ ፩
ለ ሳ ያ ር ፡ ለ ፲ ፬ ቅ ን ፡ ለ ወ ረ ጀ ሌ ፡ አ ኁ ማ ፡ ኑ ያ ፈ ፩
ለ ፲ ፲ ፫ ፲ ፯ ፭ ዓ መ ኑ ፡ ም ሐ ረ ኑ ፩



257. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Warraylu 4 January 1899

ሞዓ፡እነ በሳ፡ዞኢ ፃዐ ነገ ደ፡ ደሁ ደ፡ደ ሳማዊ፡ ፃዐ ኦ ፈ ክ፡ ሠዊ ፀዐ፡ኦ ሳ
ዞ እ ነ ሐ ር ፡ገ ግ ፡ ሠ ፡ነ ገ ሠ ት፡ ዞ ኢ ት ዊ ጵ ደ ፡፡ ደ ሙ ፈ ለ ት ፡ ከ ቢ ዙ ደ
ጹ፡ ኢ ል ሳ ፡እ ጌ ደ ት፡ ሰ ገ ብ ተ ሃ ፈ ፡፡ እ ኔ ፡ እ ሳ ዞ ኦ ሐ ር ፡ ደ ፀ ዐ
ሠ ግ ሳ ፡ ደ ፋ ና ፡ነ ኛ ፡፡ ራ ሰ ፡ በ ፀ ገ ገ ኛ፡ ደ ኦ ጌ ሳ ፡ በ ር ፡ ደ ዣ ፡ እ ዋ ጋ ለ
ሁ ፡ብ ኲ እ ፡ መ ኦ ት ፡ ብ ሰ ፀሳ ፡ ደ ህ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ እ ው ፡ ነ ት ፡ የ ሆ ነ ፡ እ ገ ደ
ሆ ነ ፡ ኤ ቪ ፡ እ ጊ ደ ደ ፀ ፈ ዋ ፡ ብ ዩ ፡ ግ ሰ ሳ ኺ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡፡ ከ ወ ረ ይ ሉ ፡
በ ት ነ ሣ ሁ ፡ በ ፓ ቀ ጌ ፡ እ ሽ ጌ ጌ ፡ ብ ዞ ፈ ቅ ፡ ራ ስ ፡ መ ሄ ገ ሻ ፃዐ ፡ ገ ና ፡ እ
ሰ ቀ ድ ፃዐ ፡ ሽ ሽ ቶ ፡ ው ደ ፡ ኦ ጋ ፀ ዊ ፡ ዒ ደ ፡ እ ኛ ፃዐ ፡ ፀዐ ቀ ፈ ፡ ገ ሳ ሄ ፡ የ ጪ
ደ ሰ ጋ ፃዐ ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ የ ለ ፡ ኻ ለ ው ፡ ፡ እ ነ ራ ፡ ሰ ፡ ፀዐ ኩ ጊ ጌ ፡ ቢ ፈ ኩ ብ ኛ ፡
ካ ሽ ሄ ዊ ፡ ተ ለ ለ ለ ሰ ሀ ፡ ፡ ፡ በ ቃ ፋ ሣ ሠ ፡ በ ፮ ፯ ቀ ጌ ፡ ጣ ክ ሰ ኟ ፡ ወ ረ
ይ ሉ ፡ ገ ሳ ሁ ፡ ፡ ደ ሄ ተ ፃዐ ፡ ጀ ብ ደ ቢ ፡ ወ ረ ይ ሉ ፡ ከ ግ ሳ ፡ ጀ ረ ስ ፈ ኛ ፡ ፡
ነ ገ ር ፡ ሳ ጌ ፡ ዩ ለ ክ ህ ብ ኛ ፡ ጀ ብ ደ ቢ ፡ ቀ ኑ ፡ አ ሉ ተ ጻ ፈ ፃዐ ፡ ተ ዞ ገ
ሳ ቁ ፡ ነ ው ሄ ፡ በ ዞ ህ ፡ ቀ ጌ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ክ ለ ህ ፡ ፀ ነ ው ፡ ሳ ት ጽ ፍ ፈ ኛ ፡ ቀ ረ
ህ ፡ ፡ ሠ ፈ ክ ፡ ሠ ራ ተ ኞ ች ና ፡ ሰ ዓ ቃ ፡ ሰ ሬ ፡ መ ፀ ጣ ቸ ው ሄ ፡ ስ ም ፒ ፡
ደ ሰ ፡ እ ለ ኛ ፡፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ሳ ጌ ፡ ፮ ደ ፡ ሠ ፈ ዝ ፡ ሠ ራ ተ ኞ ፡ በ መ ጣ ቱ ፡ እ ጅ ሳ ፡ እ
ዞ ጌ ኩ ፡ ፡ የ መ ጡ ት ም ፡ እ ጌ ሳ ደ ኞ ፡ ሰ ለ ላ ኩ ት ፡ ሰ ፈ ም ታ ፡ ለ ኔ ፀ ፡ እ የ
ጂ ት ፡ ና ኞ ው ፡ እ ሱ ፡ ክ ለ ህ ፡ ሰ ኣ ፃዐ ታ ፡ ጌ ገ ር ፈ ኛ ፡፡ ለ ቢ ኑ ፡ ክ ደ ጂ ፡ ሣ
ር ፡ ደ ፈ ከ ው ጌ ፀ ፡ እ ጂ ሽ ፡ እ በ ሳ ፡ የ ጣ ሰ ራ ው ፡ ቢ ት ፡ ክ ሥ ፡ ነ ው ና ፡
ሣ ር ፡ እ ጌ ደ ደ ሳ ክ ጌ ፡ ክ ፔ ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ፡ እ ሁ ጌ ፃዐ ፡ ወ ደ ፡ እ ዛ ኛ ፡ ሳ ዝ ው ፡ ፈ
ኪ ፈ ሃ ለ ሁ ና ፡ በ ፈ ክ ፡ ወ ሰ ደ ሃ ፡ ኂ ሊ ፡ በ ዞ ደ ው ፡ ፈ ክ ፡ እ ጌ ድ ታ ገ ሳ ፡ ደ
ሁ ጌ ፡፡ ወ ረ ፃዐ ፡ ዩ ት ገ ኘ ው ጂ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ሞ ሎ ፡ ሞ ሎ ፡ ለ ክ ክ ኛ ፡ ፡
እ ሳ ዞ እ ነ ሐ ር ፡ በ ሐ ደ ወ ት ፡ ለ መ ግ ና ኘ ት ፡ ደ ክ ቃ ጌ ፡፡ በ ቃ ፋ ሣ ሠ ፡ በ
ስ ፮ ፯ ቀ ጌ ፡ በ ወ ረ ይ ሉ ፡ ከ ተ ፀ ሳ ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡፡
ሳ ፲ ፰ ፱ ዒ ፲ ፭ ዒ ፀ ወ ት ፡ ም ሕ ረ ቱ ፡ ፡

258. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 5 January 1899

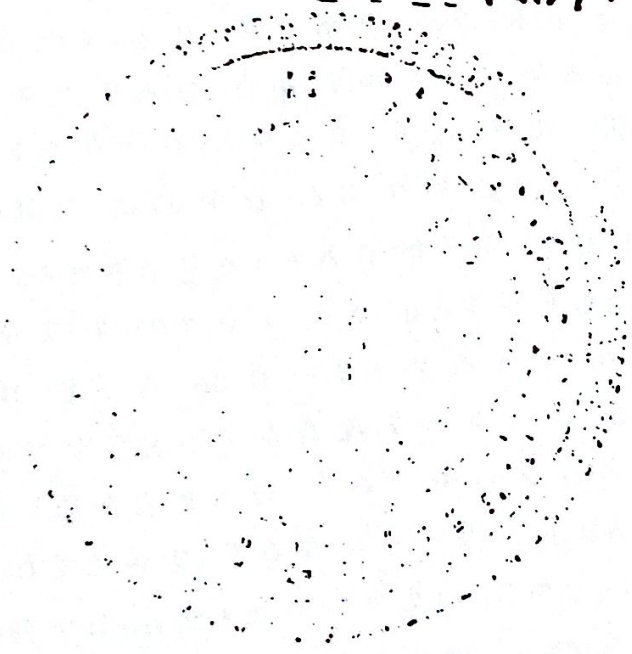
ሞዓ፡አንበሳ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡ሸላማዊ፡ዓዐደልክ፡ሥ
ዒወ፡እላዝ፡እህሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይ ድረስ፡ከቢሣደድ፡ኢልላ፡እንደ፡ት፡ሰንብተሃል፡
እኒ፡እላዝ.እህሔር.፡ይ መ ሥገኝ፡ደሳና፡ነኝ።የ ዓዐገ
ወዐ ኻከረ ው፡ጉደይ፡እለና፡ፅ ጌዝ፡ገ ሠላ ሠህ፡ወዐኛ
ት ህ፡ት ገ ና ኻ ቲ ነ እ ንድ ት ወዐ ለ ስ ይሁ ን ። በ ታ ላ ክ ሳ
ሥ፡ለ ፪ ፫ ቀ ነ ፡ ለ ሠ ረ ይ ሉ ፡ ከ ተ ወ ዓ ፡ ተ ሳ ፈ ።
ባ ፲ ፫ ቂ ነ ፅ ዓ ወዐ ተ ፡ ዓ ዐ ሕ ረ ት ።

Documents

259. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Warraylu 13 January 1899

ሞዓ፡ አግበሰ፡ ዘእምነግደ፡ ጀሀ፡ደ፡ዲ-ግ ወሳዊ፡ ሞኔልክ፡ሠፍ
መ፡ኤሳዘአብ ሐር፡ሳገ፡ሠ፡ነሳ ለሥፋ፡ ዘኢፉ፡ዮቋ፡ደ።
ጀ ጁ፡ረስ፡ ከቢ ቁ ደ ጁ፡ ኢልሳ፡ አግ ጀ ቱ፡ ሰሳ ብተሳ ል፡ እን፡
እ ግዚአብሐር፡ ጀ መ ለ ገገ፡ ደ ፋ ና፡ ነ ኛ ፡ ፡ በ ታ፡ ፋ ሠ ለ፡ በ ፮ ፬
ቀ ግ፡ አ ጀ ስ፡ አበ ባ፡ የ ተ ጸ ረ፡ ደ ብ ጄ ቢ ሀ ፡ ደ ረ ሰ ልኛ ፡ ፡ ሁ ሉ ሳ ዓ፡
ነ ግ ር፡ ሳ ቱ ል ክ ብ ኛ ፡ ደ ስ፡ አ ለ ኛ ፡ ፡ ወዑ ረ፡ ሐ ረ ሳ ብ ሳ ዓ፡ በ ቪ
ት፡ ለ ሠ ራ፡ ተ ቸ ግ ኒ ል፡ ደ ል ከ ዉ ኝ፡ የ ቱ ሉ ጀ ዓ ቱ ን ፡ ሞ ስ ለ ፣ አ
ሣ፡ ጀ ግ ለ ጡ ን ፡ ለ ሠ ራ ለ ት ሳ የ ፡ አ ገ ዘ ዝ ለ ታ ለ ሀ ፡ ፡ ደ ዉ ራ፡ አ
ጀ ቸ ች ን ሳ ዓ፡ ፣ ነ ግ ር፡ የ ለ ክ ህ ብ ኛ ን ፡ ስ ዓ፡ ስ ጠ ቸ ዉ ን ና፡ ቁ ጥ
ራ ቸ ዉ ፡ ጀ ሞ ጣ ል ኛ ና፡ ኤ ር፡ ኤ ል ከ ለ ሀ ፡ ፡ ሊ ላ ዉ ን ፡ ን ጂ ጀ፡ ሀ
ሉ፡ ደ ለ ክ ሁ ሳ ህ፡ በ ቀ ደ ሞ፡ ኤ ግ ድ ት ጠ መ ጣ፡ ሳ የ ፡ ል ኪ ሳ ነ ለ ሁ ና፡
ጀ ህ ን ፡ ሂ ዘ፡ ከ መ ሂ ገ ጀ ፡ ደ ር ሰ ህ፡ ጀ ሆ ና ል ፡ ፡ ሁ ሉ ሳ ዓ፡ ነ ገ ር፡ ለ ሳ
ገ ና ኛ ፡ ኤ ሳ ነ ጋ ገ ራ ለ ን ፡ ሳ የ ፡ ነ ዉ ፡ ፡ ኤ ሳ ግ ጀ ዉ ሳ ዓ፡ ሰ ዓ ት፡ ሰ ዘ ፡ ለ
ራ፡ በ ዘ ህ ፡ ጀ ዝ ሞ ር፡ ሳ የ ፡ ጀ ኸ ዉ ፡ ፅ ሰ ዓ ት፡ ሰ ጁ ጀ ለ ሁ ፡ ፡ ሣ ሉ፡
ተ በ ጅ ታ ፡ ኤ ግ ድ ት መ ጣ፡ ጀ ሁ ን ፡ ፡ ለ ዓ ስ ት ህ ና፡ ለ ወ ሳ ኛ ህ ሞ የ
ዘ ን ፡ ቃ ል፡ ሰ ለ ሞ ታ፡ አ ድ ር ስ ል ኛ ፡ ፡ በ ሮ ር ፡ በ ቪ ቁ ን ፡ በ ወ ረ አ ሉ ከ
ት፡ ወ ሳ፡ ተ ጸ ረ ፡ ለ ፣ ፫ ፱ ፯ ፅ ዓ ወ ፥ ሞ ሐ ረ ት ፡ ፡

260. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 14 January 1899



261. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 24 January 1899

ሞ ዳ፡ እ ግ በ ሳ፡ ዘ እ ም ነ ግ ደ፡ ደ ሁ ደ ፡ ደ ላ ማ ዊ ፡ ም ኒ ል ክ፡ ሠ ፍ ሜ፡
እ ግ ዚ አ፡ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ኘ ጉ ሠ፡ ነ ግ ሠ ቱ ፡ ዘ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ፦
ደ ጅ ረ ስ፡ ከ ቢ ሓ ደ ጅ፡ ኢ ል ግ፡ እ ግ ዲ ት፡ ሰ ግ ላ ተ ሃ ል፡ እ ኔ፡
እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ደ መ ሠ ግ ግ ፡ ደ ግ ዮ፡ ነ ኻ [illegible]
ክ ሙ ሲ ፦ ኪ ም በ ል ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ የ ወ ር ቅ፡ ሠ ራ ፡ የ ሚ ሰ ሩ ፡ ሻ ግ
ቅ ሎ ች፡ ደ ሬ ል ጉ፡ ደ ፋ ነ ው ፡ ግ ራ ሰ፡ ወ ል ደ፡ ጊ ዮ ር ጊ ስ ፡
መ ሓ ፡ ወ ግ ድ፡ መ ሓ ሲ ት፡ ሻ ግ ቅ ላ፡ ሰ ላ ሰ ቤ እ ለ ሁ ፡ ላ
ሎ፡ ላ ክ ላ ኻ ነ ግ ር ፡ ላ ግ፡ ክ ፋ፡ ሲ ቀ መ ጡ ፡ ጊ ዜ፡ እ ግ ራ ቸ
ው ፡ ቅ ር ላ ፡ ሆ ነ ና፡ እ የ ኰ በ ለ ሉ ፡ ቢ ያ ሰ ቸ ግ ሩ ፣ ተ ክ ፋ ፡ ወ
ዲ ፡ ሊ ሙ ፡ ሰ ዱ ሂ ቸ ዋ ለ ሁ ፡ እ ለ ፡፡ እ ሁ ግ ም ፡ የ ሚ ቀ በ ለ ኻ ፡ ሰ
ው ፡ ደ ም ጣ ፡ ላ ሏ ል ና ፡ እ ግ ቱ ፡ ሰ ው ፡ ሰ ደ ህ ፡ ከ ሊ ሙ ፡
ወ ዲ ዚ ያ ው ፡ ወ ር ቅ፡ ወ ደ ሚ ሰ ሩ በ ቱ ፡ እ ግ ዜ ታ ሰ ሰ ደ ቸ ው ፡
ደ ሁ ግ ሊ ሙ ፡ ያ ሉ ት፡ የ ራ ሰ፡ ወ ል ደ ፡ ገ ዮ ር ጊ ስ ፡ ሹ ም ች፡
እ ግ ዲ ደ ከ ላ ክ ሱ ፡ ወ ደ ፡ ራ ሰ፡ ወ ል ደ ፡ ገ ዮ ር ገ ሰ፡ ደ ላ ደ ቤ ፡
ል ኪ እ ለ ሁ ፤ በ ጥ ር ፡ ባ ፲ ፯ ቀ ግ ፡ በ ወ ረ ደ ሉ ፡ ክ ተ ማ ፡ ት ጸ ሬ ፦
በ ፲ ፹ ፱ ፺ ፭ ፩ ዓ መ ቱ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ፦

262. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 30 January 1899

ቁጥ፡ኔንበሳ፡ዘእመነንፃ፡ይሁይ፡ጸላማዊ፡ኃይኤጽ፡ሥ
ዩ መ፡እጓሂ ኤክሒር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።
ይ ድረስ፡ከቢጥያዱ፡ኢልጓ፡እንደኑ፡ዕንክተሃል፡
እኒ፡እጓዘ.እክሒር፡ይ መ ሥንን፡ደሓና፡ነኝ። የ ኃገ
መ ከከረው፡ጉደይ፡እለና፡ፅንዒ፡ን ሠጓ ሠ ህ፡መኖ
ተ ህ፡ተንናኝተኒ እንድ ት መ ለ ስ ይኑን.. በ ታ ሪክ
ሥ፡በፔ ቍን፡ በ ወረይ ሉ፡ከ ተ ሰጓ፡ተሂ ፈ።
ባ ፒ ጅ የንፅ ዓ መ ተ፡ፃ ዕ ለ ት።

263. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 16 February "1899"[?]

ይ ድረስ፡ ከ ክቡ ር፡ ወ ዲ ፒ ፡ክ ቢ ታ ወ ዲ ድ።
ደ ልጓ ፡—
ብዙ፡ ሰላ ም ን፡ ቁ ና፡ ላ ንተ ፡ ይ ሁ ን።
የ ተ ላ ከ፡ ከ ራ ስ፡ መ ሎ ጓ ን ፡ የ ሐ ረ ር ና ፡ ያ ው
ራ ፒ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ገ ሽ ። በ እ ጓ ዚ ኤ ክ ሒ ር ፡ች ር ነ
ት ፡ ነ ገ ራ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ የ ኤ ቂ ላ ሉ ሆ ነ ። ራ ስ፡ መ ኮ ን
ኛ ው ን ጉ ው ሩ ኔ ም ፡ ኔ ሳ ች ው ን ፡ ደ ኅ ር ፡
ያ ሲ ፡ ጂ ን ሆ ደ፡ ኡ ስ ታ ፍ ቤ ት ፡መ ኖ ቸ ፡
ተ ገ ና ኮ ሆ ነ ፡ ወ ደ ት ላ ሬ ፡ ስ ሄ ድ ሁ ፡ ለ ቂ ን ፡
እ ን ኳ ፡ ከ ቻ ኔ ን ፡ ደ ገ ኞ ን ፡ የ ለ ም ። የ
እ ጓ ዚ እ ክ ሒ ር ፡ ረ ዲ ት ኔ ት ፡ ከ ኮ ፡ ጋ ራ ፡ እ ን
ዲ ሆ ነ ፡ ደ ኽ ው ፡ እ ኽ ታ ው ቅ ሃ ፅ ሁ ። እ ጓ ዚ
ፅ ብ ሒ ር ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ን ፡ ቤ ና ፡ ደ ስ ጥ ህ ።
ት ጸ ረ ፡ የ ካ ቲ ት ፡ ፲ ፯ ን ፡ ዲ ሴ ፡ አ ተ ጣ ።

264. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 19 February 1899

ሞ ፋ፡ ኣገ በ ሰ፡ ዘኣ ም ዩገ ፯፡ ፬ ሁ፯፡ ፯ ኀ ጣ ፟ ፟ ፟

265. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Ēfrātā Camp 10 March 1899

ሞፋ፡አገለሳ፡ሠአምዐገደ[illegible]ደ፡ሞኀለክ፡ሠዊመ፡እግ
ነር አ ዝሑ ር፡ኄጉ ሠ፡ነገ ሥት፡ሠሊ ት ዊድ ደ። ደ ድ ረስ፡ ከቢ ተ ደ ድ፡
ኤ ፈግ፡እገ ዪ ት፡ስጌ ዝ ተ ሃ ፈ፡እ ኔ፡ እግ ነር እ ዝሑ ር፡ደ መ ሠገጌ፡ደ
ረ ና፡ ናች። በ ደ ዛ ቲ ት፡በ ፎ ር ቀጌ፡ ደ ተ ዓ ሬ፡ደ ዝ ደ ቢ ህ፡ደ ረ ሰ ፈ ች።
ደ ለ ክ ህ ዝ ች ጌ ም፡ ነገ ር፡ ሰ ማ ሁ፡እግ ነር አ ዝሑ ር፡ ደ መ ስ ማ ጌ ህ።
ደ ሙ ሴ፡ ሬ ኤ ክ ስ ፎ ር ም፡ መ ሞ ት፡ እጅ ግ፡ ደ ሚ ደ ፃ ዝ ጌ፡ሆ ነ ፡
እ ሁ ጌ ም፡ እ ግ ዯ ው፡ ኦ ጌ ደ ለ ክ ህ ዝ ች። ለ መ ሴ፡ ሬ ኤ ክ ስ ፎ ር ም፡
ሚ ስ ት፡ ለ ረ ነ ጌ ሳ ዊ ም፡ መ ግ ሓ ሥ ት፡ አ መ ሴ፡ ላ ጋ ር ድ ም፡ ደ ኽ
ው፡ ደ ዝ ደ ቢ፡ ኦ ነ ዬ እ ለ ሀ።። ደ ገ ዝ ር፡ ክ ር ስ ቶ ስ ን ም፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ መ ደ፡
መ ሴ፡ ሽ ፍ ኔ፡ ደ ተ ደ ረ ገ ው ጌ፡ እ ት ሰ ጥ፡ ዝ ለ ህ፡ መ ላ ክ ህ፡ መ ፈ
ጻ ም፡ እ ደ ረ ሓ ህ ፡ ። እ ሁ ጌ ም፡ እ ግ ዯ ሰ ጥ፡ ደ ሓ ጻ ሀ፡ እ ጠ ን ከ ረ ህ፡ ላ ክ
በ ት። ደ ሚ ሰ ት ህ ና፡ ደ ሠ መ ደ ች ህ ም፡ ሰ ላ ሞ ታ፡ ደ ለ ክ ህ ልች፡ ፀ
ረ ሽ ፈ ች፡ ፈ ኔ ም፡ ሰ ላ ሞ ታ፡ ገ ን ር ፈ ች። በ መ ጋ ቢ ት፡ በ ፎ ቀ ጌ።
ገ ፤ ፤ ፬ ፮ ፭ ፯ ዓ መ ቱ፡ ም ፈ ረ ት ። በ ኡ ጭ ራ ታ፡ ሰ ፈ ር ፡ ተ ጻ ፈ ።

266. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Yefāt Royal Camp 16 March 1899

ማዓ፡ እግዚአ፡ ዘእምነግደ፡ይሁዳ፡ ደግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ ሠራዊ፡ እግዚእ ብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ነገ ሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ ይድረስ፡ ለቢ ጉይድ፡ ኤልግ፡ እግይጅ፡ ሰዓብተ፡ሳሊ፡ እኔ፡ እግዚእ ብሔር፡ ይመስማ፡ይህና፡ነኝ። ባደጀኑ፡ ኃይለ፡ ጣር ያ ምጣ፡ ማኑ፡ ለመፃጢኦ፡ ግ፫ቀግ፡ ተ ደይ ሁ። ያዓተ ም፡ ይ ብደቢ፡ ይ ደሰኝ። ነግር፡ ግጣ፡ ባደጀኑ፡ ኃይለ፡ ጣር ያ ምጣ፡ መቷ መ ም፡ ለብርቱ፡ መሆኑ ጣ፡ ኦለወ ሰግ ም ፡ ኀለ ር፡ ብ ትለኝ ፡ ሐ ኪ ማኑ፡ ሰ ያ ዮኦ፡ ለ መ ጣ ቱ፡ እጅ ግ ፡ ተ መ ጽ ው።ኢኔ ግ እ ኢ ብ ሐ ር፡ የ ቅ ደ መ ው ጣ፡ ም ጣ ም፡ ሰው ፡ ለ ያ ጅ ግ፡ ሐ ኪ ማኑ፡ ኢ ይ ተ ው ኦ፡ ደ ሆ ን፡ መ ልአ ክ ም፡ ነ ለ ር ። ግ ን ራ ኦ ጣ ም፡ ቱ ደ ኦ፡ ደ ሸ ታ ው ጣ፡ የ ይ ለ ቀ፡ መ ድ ኃ ኔ ቱ ም፡ ይ ደ ለ ቅ ለ ቷ ል፡ ይ ጣ ደ ል፡ የ ሱ ም፡ ነ ገ ር፡ ኢ ግ ይ ሄ ህ፡ ያ ለ፡ ሆ ነ፡ ም ጣ፡ ይ ይ ን ል ። ራ ሱ፡ መ ኰ ጣ ጣ፡ ግ ጣ፡ ከ ኦ ግ ሬ ፡ እ ኔ፡ ዘ ዓ ይ፡ እ ግ ዚ ን ጣ፡ ለ ጭ ዓ ኳ፡ ታ ም፡ ነ ለ ር ። ም ጣ ም፡ ረ ቃ ይ፡ የ እ ግ ዚ እ ብ ሔ ር፡ ሊ ሆ ጣ፡ ሐ ኪ ማ ኑ፡ ሌ ኦ፡ ቀ ኦ ጣ፡ ይ ከ መ ው፡ ለ ነ ፈ፡ ድ ከ ም፡ ይ ነ ል ኝ ። ለ መ ፃ ጢ ኦ፡ ለ ፫ ቀ ጣ፡ ይ ሩ ኦ፡ ለ መ ጣ ግ ሠ ኦ፡ ሰ ራ ር፡ ተ ሸ ራ ጣ ፡ ዓ መ ቱ፡ ም ሕ ረ ኦ ን

267. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Addis Ababā 17 March "1899"

ጀንሆይ ፡

መድኃኔ ዓለም ፡ ጤና ፡ ይሰጥልኝ ፣ ቢየ። ፡ ኔጉ ፡ ኔጉሣለሁ።
ዘረ ፡ ከመ። ሴ ፡ ሐረጓቱን ፡ ሥግኑኝሁና ፡ ናቂሱ ፡ የዐጉብር ፡
ውሉ ፡ ነግር ፡ ተናጋግረናል ።
መኑው ፡ የሱሂን ፡ ወሰን ፡ ከሻዑሎ ክ ፡ አንሰተን ፡ ኔጉወ
ለናለን ፡ ለመ። ሴ ፡ ቸኮሂኮላ ፡ ለሂመለስከቱ ፡ ሣረ ፡ ለየ። ፣ በለ
ችው ፡ ከጀንሆይ ፡ ነኝ ፡ መና ፡ የተሰወገላቸውን ፡ ከር ታ ፡ ለኤ
ጣል ፡ ፡ ንግሥት ፡ ኔሳየለሁ ፡ ብለው ፡ መለሱ ። ኔንግሂህ ፡
የኤጣሊያ ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ለመ። ሴ ፡ ቸኮሂኮላ ፡ ይህንኔ ፡
ነግረዋ ችዋል ፡ አልነግረዋችውም ፡ አሳውቁትም ፣ አሉኝ ።
ጸጥሞ ፡ መኑው ፡ አለሰና ፡ ለመ። ሴ ፡ ቸኮሂኮላ ፡ ከጀንሆይ ፡ ጋራ ፡
ቆለማ ፡ ቆዑለ ክ ፡ ሊወጋሪኑ ፡ ስያዐ ፡ አሉ ፡ ቢየ። ፡ በላችው ፡
መ። ሴ ፡ ቸኮሂኮላና ፡ ጀንሆይ ፡ የለሚወሰኑኔ ፡ መጣ ፡ አገበኝ ፡
ቦ [illegible] ፡ አሉኝ ።
አሁኔ ፡ አኒሂት ፡ ሄሁኔ ፡ ሩየ። ፡ በለሱው ፡ ነግ ፡ ለመ። ሴ ፡
ቸኮሂኮላ ፡ ሊለዐ በጉ ፡ ኑውና ፡ ከርለቹ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ነግሯኔ ፡
ተለማ ከረ ፡ የሚሆኑኔ ፡ አያለሁ ፡ አሉኝ ። አኑ ፡ ኔለውነት ፡
ጀንሆይ ፡ ለኤጣሊያኖች ፡ መርዲት ፡ ለመፈለግ ፡ ኑወ ፡ ዐዐ ለ
ሎኝ ፡ ነበር ፡ አሉኝ ። ጀንሆይ ፡ መጓዝ ፡ አንሂህ ፣ ደለ ፡
ሐሰብ ፡ የለችዐዐ ፡ ከኤጣልያኖ ፡ ከኔንግለጊ ፡ ለመጓዝ ፡
ነግር ፡ ማሳለ ፡ ለመግባት ፡ አልፈለጉዐዐ ፡ አንኳ ፡ አለሁዋችው ።
አሁን ፡ ደግሞ ፡ ለመ። ሴ ፡ ቸኮሂኮላና ፡ መ። ሴ ፣ ሐረጓቱን ፡
ሥግኑኝ ፡ የተለማ ከረውን ፡ ነግር ፡ ለጀንሆይ ፡ አለመለከ
ታለሁ ።
አዲስ ፡ አበባ ፡ ለመጋቢት ፡ በ፴ ሳን ፡ ሥጓፈ ።

የጀንሆይ ፡ ቁታመኒ ፡ ሎሌ ።

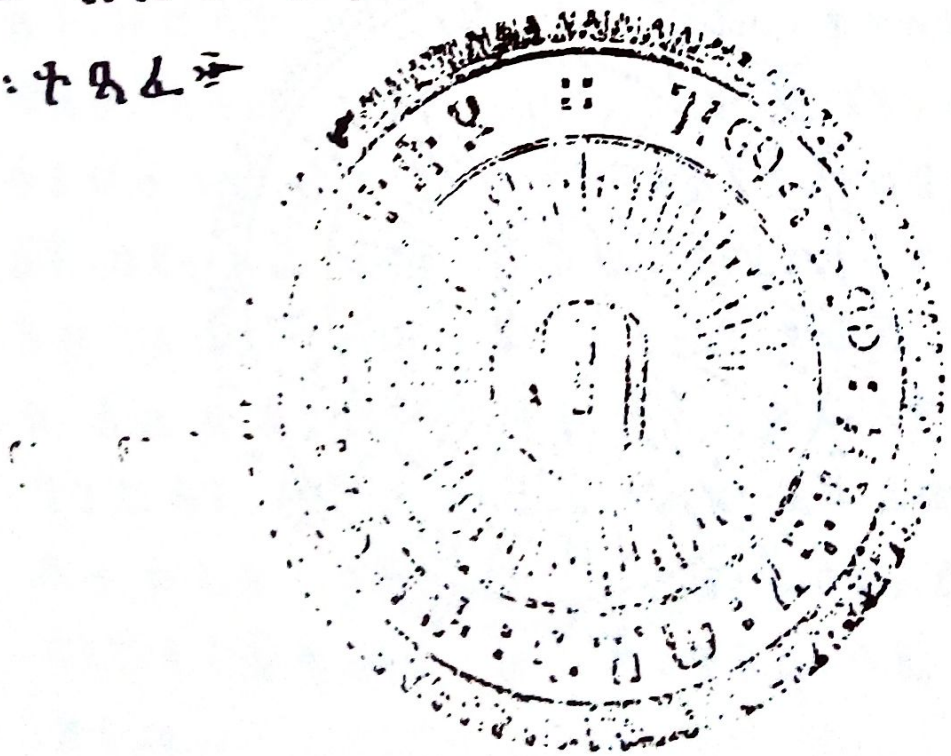
268. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Alēltu Camp 29 March 1899

ሞዓ፡ አ ኀበ ሰ፡ ዘ አምላ ነግሢ፡ ሃ፡ሁ፡ ሃ፡ ዒ ግ ጣ ዊ፡ ም ነ ሰ ክ፡ ሠ ዮ ወ፡ አ ግ ዚ አ ክ ሬ ር፡ ኀ ጉ ሠ፡ ነ ግ ሥ ት፡ ዘ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ ። ይ ሁ ለ ስ ቲ ስ ቢ ጉ ዳ ዮ ች፡ ኢ ል ግ ፡ እ ግ ዚ ኦ፡ ሰ ግ ገ ሪ ሃ ል፡ እ ኔ፡ አ ግ ዚ አ ክ ሬ ር ። ይ መ ስ ግ ን ፡ ዬ ዘ ና ፡ ነ ች ። ዒ ክ ዒ ሊ ህ ም ፡ ዒ ራ ሰ ል ች ፡ የ ኣ ጥ ልኬ ግ ፡ ወ ረ ፡ አ የ ሁ ት ። ኔ ም ፡ ይ ኸ ው ፡ መ ጣ ሁ ፡ ቅ ኣ ሚ ፡ አ ዪ ስ ፡ ኔ በ ጣ ፡ አ ገ ባ ለ ሁ ። እ ኀ ግ ዒ ህ ፡ ስ ኀ ፐ ና ች ፡ ቃ ል ፡ ለ ቃ ል ፡ አ ግ ነ ጋ ግ ራ ለ ኀ ፡ እ ኀ ኺ ። አ ሁ ኀ ጣ ፡ ም ኀ ፡ የ ም ጭ ጥ ል ህ ፡ ነ ግ ር ፡ አ ለ ች ። ኔ ሚ ስ ት ህ ነ ፡ ለ ዞ መ ዒ ኾ ህ ም ፡ ሰ ላ ም ሃ ፡ ኀ ግ ሮ ሬ ኀ ። ሰ ሠ ጋ ጢ ት ፡ በ ፎ ፌ ቃ ኀ ፡ ጣ ሌ ል ሄ ፡ ሰ ረ ሮ ፡ ሃ ጸ ረ ። ።

ጣ ፲ ፲ ፱ ፯ ፌ ዓ መ ት ፡ ም ሕ ረ ሃ ። ።

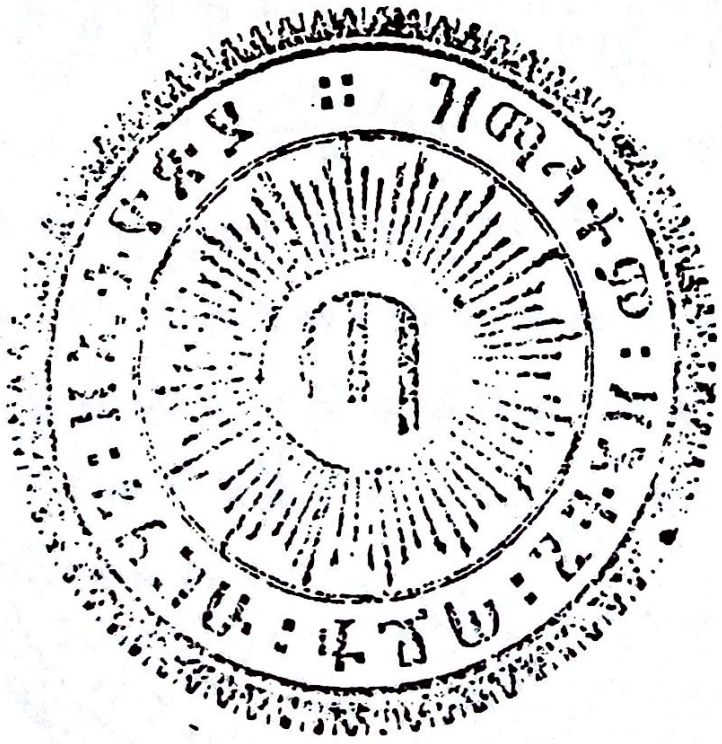
269. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 19 April 1899

ይድረስ፡ ከቢሱይ ፡ ኢልግ፡
እንይት፡ ው ለሃል፡ እኔ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ይመሥ
ገን፡ ይጓና፡ ነኝ።
ሙሴ፡ ሽፍኒ፡ የአከልኝ፡ ጧፉ፡ ይኸ፡ ነው። ካ
ርሃኑም፡ እጅግ፡ ጣአፊያ፡ ሆነ። አንተም፡ አብ
ርተህ፡ እንድታየው፡ ካዬ፡ ይሽው፡ ሰድኺል
ሃለሁ። አሁንም፡ የዚህ፡ ዓይነት፡ ፈትል፡
ቀጭኑ፡ ይ ምጣልኝ፡ ብዬ፡ ነበርና፡ ቀጭኑ፡ቀ
ርቃ፡ የወፍራው፡ ዓይነት፡ በብዙው፡እን
ይመጣልኝ፡ ይሁን። በጫያዝያ፡ በ፲፬ቀን፡ በሐ
ይሲ፡ አበባ፡ ከተጣ፡ በ፲፫፻፺፯ ዓመት፡ ምሕ
ረት፡ትጓፈ።



270. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 June 1899

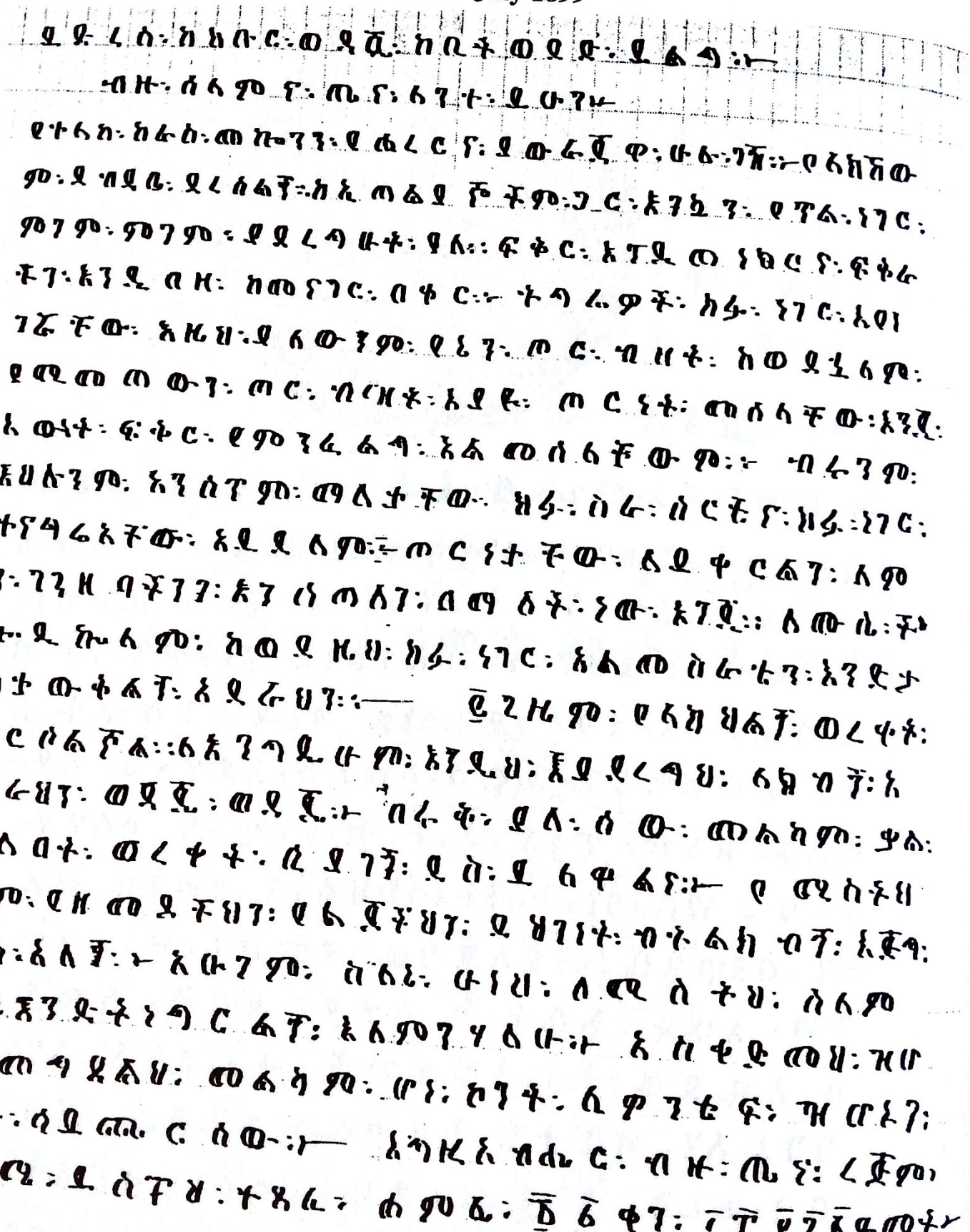
ዋቲላክ፡ ከእቲጊ፡ ጣይቱ፡ ሽርሃን፡ ዘኢትዮጵ
ያ። ይድረስ፡ ከሺቓ ያድ፡ ኢልግ፡ እንዲት፡
ሰን ክተሃል። እኔ፡ እግዚኦክሐር፡ ይመሥገ
ን፡ ይሳና፡ ነኝ። መታመህንም፡ ክትልክህ
ኝ፡ እጅግ፡ አኖክቲ፡ ደነግጥኩ። ደንተጣ፡
ሉመም፡ የሁላችን፡ ነው፡ እንጂ፡ ምን፡ደ
ን ተ፡ ክቻ። እግዚአክሐር፡ ዐቂላሉ፡ ደድ
ር ግልህ። ለሰኔ፡ ለ፲፫ ቱን፡ ጣዲስ፡ አበባ፡
ከተማ። ለ፲፫ የ፭ ዓመተ፡ ምሕረት፡ ተጻፈ።



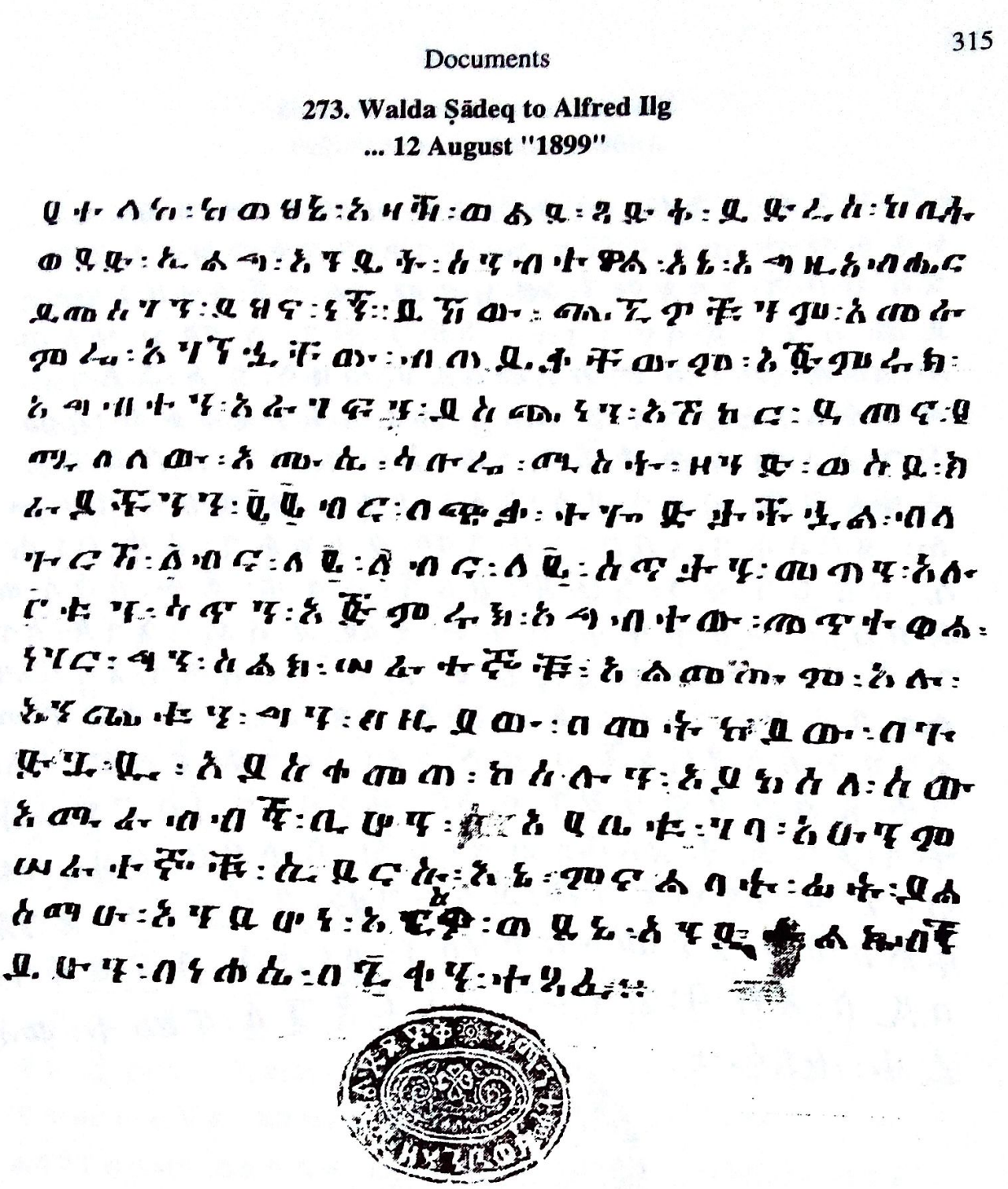
271. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 30 June 1899

ሞዓ ፡አንበሳ ፡ዘአምነንያ ፡ዚሁያ ፡ጁዳ ፡ሚጣጣዊ ፡ምኒልክ ፡ሠዊመ፡ አግዚአብሔር ፡ንጉሠ ፡ነገሥት ፡ዘኢትዮጵያ ። ጽዮን ፡ክቢዋ ያጽ ፡ሊልግ ፡አንጌት ፡ሰነብተሃላለ ፡እኔ ፡እግዚአብሔር ፡ይመሠገን ፡ይሁን ፡ነኝ ።ነ ሺታህሣስ ፡አንደምን፡ናህ ፡ዛሬ ፡ጥቂት ፡አልተሻለህም እኒም ፡የኔ ጭ ር.ጊ ስ ፡ለጉ ፡አ ቤተ ፡ክ ር ስቲ ያን ፡ጌ ር ሽ ፡ስ መ ለ ስ ፡አ ይሃ ለ ሁ ፡ካ ቄ ፡ሣ ለ ሁ ፡ዝ ነግ ዐ ፡ሞ ነ ኖ ፡እ,ተ ፡ነ ር ር ስቲ ያን ፡ሳ ል ሄ ጭ ፡ቀ ረ ሁ ። ነ ገ ር ፡ግን ፡ት ለ ግ ቱ ያ ለ ነ ዘ ሀ ል ኝ ን ፡ደ ካ ያ ቤ ፡ሞ ለ ሹን ፡በ ያ ካ ያ ቤ ፡አ ን ደ ለ ያ ገ ዉ ፡የ ሚ በ ዛ ፡ሞ ነ ። ፡ፅ ሁ ን ሞ ፡እ ሁ ጭ ፡አ ቤ ተ ፡ክ, ስ ቲ ያ ን ፡ጌ ር ሽ ፡ስ መ ለ ስ ፡አ ዘ ያ ው ፡አ ቤ ቶ ህ ዝ ጥ ቼ ፡ቃ ል ፡ለ ቃ ል ፡አ ን ነ ጋ ግ ራ ለ ን ። ካ ቢ ታ ን ፡ች ኪ ኮ ላ ሞ ፡አ ዙ ያ ው ፡አ ን ች ፡ቤ ት ፡ጽ ፤ ስ ፡ አ ን ጂ መ ሪ ያ ሁ ን ። በ ስ ኒ , በ ፮ ፱ ቁ ን ፡በ ፲ ፱ ቁ ን ፅ ዓ መ ተ ፡ሞ ፈ ት ፡ተ ጸ ፈ ፡በ ጂ ስ ፡ለ በ ላ ፡ለ ተ ጠ ።

272. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
... 27 July 1899



273. Walda Ṣādeq to Alfred Ilg
... 12 August "1899"



274. Nasibu and Dastā to Panteno
Addis Ababā 3 September 1899

275. Abbā Endreyās to Menilek II
Ḥarar 10 September 1899

ይድረስ፡ ወዴ፡ ላሩ ወላዊ፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ ኣፄ ኢዛና ሐር-
ወር ጠ፡ በኢትዮ ጵ ያ፡ ላነገሣችሁ፡ ግሙኒ ልክ፡ ዲፃማላዊ፡=
ጀንሆይ፡

የወዲ ሠላቸው። እርሳችሁ ግሙ፡ ይ ወሷ ሃት፡ የነበሩ፡
ሞቱ፡= እ ቡነ፡ ያዕቆ ቢ፡ ለ ኢትዮ ጵ ያ፡ የ ታ ለ ሁ፡ ት ል
ቅ፡ ወጀ፡ ነበሩ። ግሙ ክራቸው፡ በ ሠ ነት፡ ረ ጅ ኢትና፡ ታዲ
ይ፡ ነበር። ለ ጅ ሞ ች ግሙ፡ ት ል ቅ፡ ለ ዐ በጊ ያ፡ ነበሩ፡= እ ሁን
ማ፡ ኣፄ ኢዛ ለ ር፡ ወ ዲ ዘ ን ጀ ሳቸው፡ ለ መንግ ሥት፡ ለ ለ
ሠ ጣ ት፡ ይ ህ ች ን፡ ለ ለ ረ ት፡ ለ ቀ ሠ፡ ለ ር ይ=ኢ ል ሣ ዕ፡
እ ግ ቱ፡ ኢ ል ያ ስ፡ ወ ዲ ስ ለ ማ ይ፡ በ ለ ረ ገ ላ፡ ሲ ወ ጣ፡ እ ን ዲ
መ ኽ፡ እ ኛ፡ ዲ ላ ለ መ ነ፡ የ ክ ሠ ር፡ እ ባ ታ ች ን ን፡ ነ ፍ ስ=ይ ዞ፡
ወ ዲ ለ ማ ይ፡ ለ ዲ፡ ለ ማ ይ፡ ወ ዲ፡ ወ ላ ሠ፡ ለ መ ል እ ነ፡ ሙ ሃ ን፡
እ ነ ሥ፡ ክ ሠ ር፡ ለ ለ ማ ቸ ሠ፡ እ ን ዲ፡ ኢ ል ያ ስ፡ ለ ጥ ፍ፡ ሥ ና፡ እ ን
ይ ታ ለ ነ፡ ለ ጥ ፍ፡ ሊ ባ ር ክ ን፡ ወ ረ ዲ ኣ ነ ን=። ላ ሩ ወ ላ ዊ፡ ን ጉ ሠ፡
ነ ገ ሥ ት፡ ሠ ይ፡ የ ዲ ሞ ች፡ እ ባ ት ነ ቱ ም ን፡ ዙ ሪ፡ እ ን ዲ ግ ሀ ን ለ
ጠ ሠ፡ እ ኾ ን፡ ዲ ሣ ሞ ች ግ ን፡ ያ ላ፡ ያ ዕ ቆ ቢ ን፡ ል ጀ ች፡ በ ለ ሀ ን
ላ ሠ ታ ዊ፡ በ ር ኖ ስ ግ፡ ለ ሀ ለ ሊ ያ፡ ሠ ለ ጣ ን፡ ይ ክ ዲ ኑ ን፡=
እ ኾ ግ፡ በ ጀ ን ሆ ይ፡ ታ ግ ነ ና ል፡ የ ዲ ሣ ሞ ች፡ እ ባ ት፡ ሠ ይ፡ ክ ሐ
ዲ ኑ፡ ጀ ግ ለ ን፡ እ ስ ክ፡ ሽ ለ ላ ኢ ሠ፡ የ ጀ ን ሆ ይ፡ ዘ ንኾ ች፡
የ ታ ለ ሁ፡ ል ጀ ች፡ ለ ለ ባ ል፡ ክ ላ ራ ችን፡ ዲ ስ ታ ች ን፡ ነ ሠ=—
ል ባ ችን፡ በ ኃ ዘ ን፡ ስ ለ ተ ሳ ቀ የ፡ ነ ገ ር፡ ላ ን፡ ክ እ ላ ዘ እ ላ ለ ር፡ በ ታ ች፡
የ ግ ሀ ና ግ ነ ሠ፡ ተ ስ ፋ ች ን፡ በ ጀ ን ሆ ይ፡ ነ ሠ፡ ክ ሐ ር፡ ን ጉ ሠ፡ ነ ገ ሥ ት፡
ሠ ይ=—ይ ላ ል፡ ያ ላ፡ ያ ዕ ቆ ቢ፡ ለ ለ ን ፌ ላ ሊ፡ ል ጅ፡=
እ ላ፡ እ ን ዲ ር ያ ስ፡— ተ ጄ ፌ፡ ለ ለ ር፡ ጀ ኔ ራ ሊ፡ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ፡—
ሰ ሠ ለ ክ ረ ግ ሠ፡ ኢ ት ዮ ጵ ያ፡ እ ን ዲ ሮ ፌ፡—

276. Menilek II's Certificate of Merit "Addis Ababā 4 October 1899"

ምዕራፍ፡ አንበሳ፡ ዘአግኝ፡ ነገሥታት፡ ይሁዳ፡ ዳግማዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ።

ለነገሩ ግን፡ ለበጌታችን፡ ሚገለጽ፡ ሔባታችን፡ ገዐዘአብሔር፡ መንግሥት፡ የተገለጸ።

እኛንም፡ እግዚአብሔር። ይባልም፡ እንዲሁ፡ የኛ፡ መኳንንት፤ ለመሳፍንም፡ መርዳት፡ ሉይታገሉት፡ ታገሉ፡ አገልግሉት፡ አገለግ ሉአናለ ።

ይህን፡ ሁሉ፡ በሐራው፡ ስራ፡ እንኳን፡ ደስ፡ አለኝ፤ ኅብስትም፡ በበአታ፡ ዳግመኛም፡ አውቀናለ።

ስለ፡ ዚህ፡ የራሴ፡ የዳግማዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ ለነገሩም፡ ብለን፡ ስምህ፡ ለዘላለም፡ ይኑር።

277. Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē 7 November "1899"

ደ ዮ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ክ ቡ ር ፡ ወ ዲ ጂ ፡ ከ ቢ ጉ ወ ዲ ዬ ፡ ደ ል ግ ፡ ፡ —
ብ ዙ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ን ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ላ ን ተ ፡ ይ ሁ ን ፡ —
የ ተ ላ ኩ ፡ ካ ራ ስ ፡ መ ኰ ንን ፡ የ ሐ ረ ር ን ፡ ያ ው ራ ጃ ዋ ፡ ሁ ሉ ን ም ፡ —
በ መ ሰ ለ ም ፡ በ እ ጅ የ ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ሰ ጥ ቶ ም ፡ በ ጅ ፬ ሁ ን ፡ ደ
ረ ስ ል ኝ ፡ — እ ን ኩ ፡ ጓ ን ፡ እ ኔ ያ ለ ሁ ፡ ብ ለ ህ ፡ ብ ጉ ል ስ ብ ን ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡
የ ጧ ያ ሣ ገ ን ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ነ ው ፡ ፡ — እ ጂ ስ ፡ እ ው ሁ ት ፡ እ ን ን ን ፡ ብ
ለ ው ፡ ከ ጧ ና ገ ሩ ፡ ሰ ዎ ች ፡ ባ ን ተ ፡ እ ው ቁ ት ፡ እ ሰ ካ ሁ ን ፡ ያ
ለ ው ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ለ ና ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ጥ ቅ ማ ች ን ፡ ነ በ ር ፡ ፡ እ ን ያ ኔ ፡ ብ ጉ
ሆ ን ፡ ብ ጉ ሂ ያ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ያ ስ ፡ አ ደ ለ ኝ ም ፡ ብ ቱ ሙ ያ ፡ ነ ው ፡ መ
ል ካ ሙ ፡ ፡ — ባ ደ ሆ ን ፡ እ ኳ ፡ ኑ ና ፡ እ ን ቲ ፡ እ ስ ቲ ን ገ ና ኝ ፡ ያ
ረ ስ ፡ ከ ወ ዲ ዚ ህ ፡ ወ ረ ፡ እ ን ጂ ል ጵ ሮ ል ያ ፡ ይ ል ቁ ን ፡ በ ና ን ሶ ፡
በ ኩ ል ፡ የ መ ጣ ው ን ፡ ነ ው ፡ እ ን ጂ ፡ የ ም ሰ ጣ ው ፡ በ ዚ ህ ስ ፡
ኦ ጅ ግ ም ፡ የ ጧ ሰ ጠ ፣ ነ ገ ር ፡ የ ለ ፡ ፡ ጋ ዚ ጣ ፡ ሉ ን ኳ ፡ ቢ መ
ጣ ፡ ቶ ኑ ይ ና ወ ር ፡ ካ ለ ፈ ፡ ወ ዲ ያ ፡ ነ ው ፡ የ ጧ ይ ሮ ስ ል ኝ ፡ —
ቢ መ ጉ ህ ስ ፡ ሁ ኑ ን ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ ከ ወ ዲ ን ቱ ፡ ብ ጉ ል ክ ብ ኝ ፡ ነ
ው ፡ መ ል ካ ሙ ፡ ፡ — ሰ ን ገ ና ኝ ፡ ጓ ን ፡ የ ም ጉ ሂ ዱ ፡ የ ሆ ነ ፡ እ ን
ደ ሆ ነ ፡ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ በ ሐ ደ ወ ት ፡ ለ መ ገ ና ኖ ት ፡ ያ ብ ታ ን ፡ —
መ ስ ቶ ህ ን ፡ እ ን ያ ነ ፡ ሁ ነ ህ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ እ ን ዱ ቱ ነ ግ ር ል ኝ ፡ ደ
ሁ ን ፡ ል ጀ ች ህ ን ም ፡ ዘ መ ያ ች ህ ን ም ፡ እ ን ቱ ን ም ፣ እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሄ
ር ፡ እ ገ ሬ ች ሁ ፡ ወ ደ ህ ና ፡ ለ መ ጣ ባ ት ፡ ያ ብ ታ ች ሁ ፡ ፡
ለ መ ገ ና ያ ፡ ጓ ን ፡ እ ን ዲ ይ ቸ ግ ር ፡ ለ ግ ራ ዝ መ ች ፡ በ ግ ቲ ም ፡
ስ ጪ ር ሪ ጪ ር ም ፡ መ ደ ሐ ሪ ር ፡ ደ ኽ ው ፡ ል ኪ ሉ ሃ ለ ሁ ፡ —
እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ደ ስ ጥ ህ ፡ ፡ ሥ ላ ሬ ፡ ጥ ቅ
ም ት ፡ ሽ ፲ ሁ ን ፡ መ ቂ ሊ ፡ ክ ተ ሜ ዛ —

278. Mining Concession Contract of C. W. Lane
Addis Ababā 26 December 1899

Copie

Cachet Impériale
d' Ethiopie

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ቻኔ ፣ ያግማዊ ፡ ምኒሊክ ፣ ንጉሠ ፡ ነገሥት ፣ ዘኢትዮጵያ ፡
ለኔና ፣ ለወራሾቼ ፡ የሚሠጣ ፡ ለመሬ ፡ ቫርቫ ፡ ሚሊያም ፣ ሌን ፡ በለጉሂኝ ፣ ከኮለባ ፡
ደላው ፡ የእንግሊዝ ፡ ሰውኖ ፡ ነሱ ፡ ለያረጋቸው ፡ ጉምንን ዐውቅ ፡ በዚህ ፣ ያለሀያ ፣ ፡
የሠጓቼውን ፡ ፊቃ ፡ ፈቃዱ ፡ ነኝ ብሎ ፡ አለ ።

መሣርመሪያ ፡

ባለኔ ፣ ቫንጉል ፡ ካንር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ፬ ዓመት ፡ ድረስ ፡ ለመሬ ፡ ሌን ፡ ወርቅውም ፡ ብርም ፣
ሌላም ፡ ከመሬት ፣ የሚወጣ ፡ ኑንር ፡ ሁሉ ፣ ነገሩ ያለሽልማ ፡ ፈቅጀ ለነሱለሁ ።
፬ ዓመት ፡ ያልፉለው ፡ ምዩር ፡ መቅረር ፡ ከቀጠርወሰረ ፡ ነገሥት ፡ ነው ። ያኒባለ ፡
፬ ዓመት ፣ ድረስ ፡ "ነገሩ ያልፈለግ ፡ ይህንን ፡ ፈቃዱ ፣ ለመነጠት ፣ ለመሬ ፡ ሌንና ፡
ለሰዎቹ ፡ ብሎት ፡ ነው ፣ ነገሩ ፣ "ነሰነገ ፡ ፬ ዓመት ፡ ድረስ ፡ በለኔ ፡ ቫንጉል ፡
ካንር ፣ "ነገሩ ፡ ያለ ፣ ፈቃዱ ፣ ለሌላ ፡ ነው ፡ ነገሩ ሰዎ ። ነገር ፡ ግን ፡ ባለጣ
ርቅ ፡ ነገሩ ፡ ነገሩ ፡ ወርቅ ፡ ለማውጣት ፡ ነይ ከለከሉም ። በዚህ ፡ ፬ዓ
መት ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ብርም ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከመሬት ፣ የሚወጣ ፡ ኑንር ፣ የመሬሱ ፡ ሌን ፡
ሰዎቹ ፣ ያግኙ ፣ ነገሩ ያሠኑ ፡ "ነሰነገ ፡ ፯ ዓመት ፡ ድረስ ፡ መሬሱ ፡ ሌንና ፡ የነሱ ፡
ጉምጌ ዐቅ ፣ ወርቅም ፡ ብርም ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከመሬት ፣ የሚወጣ ፡ ኑንር ፡ ሁሉ ፣
"ነገሩ ያመጡ ፣ ፈቃ ፬ ለነቅ ፡ ዋለሁ ።

፬ ሁኛ ፣

ያህንን ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ብርም ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከመሬት ፡ የሚወጣ ሠዓት ፡ ኑንር ፡ ሁሉ ፣
ለማወጣት ፡ የሚያስፈልግውን ፣ ወጣ ፡ ያስፈልግ ፡ መሠውርም ፡ ባቡር ፣ የምዩር ፡
ባቡር ፡ ሥልክም ፡ ለማምጣትና ፣ በለኔ ፡ ቫንጉል ፡ ካንር ፣ ለማቆም ፣ መጓ
ጓዩም ፡ ባይገ ፡ ለማ ለነቅ ፣ ለመሬ ፡ ሌንና ፣ ለኩምንን ዐቅ ፣ ፈቃዱን ፡ ሰጥ
ነዋለሁ ። ኑንር ፡ ግን ፡ ያህ ፡ ዘረ ፣ የሰጠሁት ፡ ፈቃዱ ፡ ከዚህ ፡ ሦ ያም ፡ ለሌላ ፡
ሰው ፣ የሰጠሁትን ፡ ፈቃዱ ፡ ሽያ ፈር ሰው ም ።

፫ ሥርዓት ፣

ለዙፋን ፡ ለወርቅም ፡ ለአገርም ፡ ከመጪው ፡ ነባሚ ወሰባ ወገ ፡ ሃገር ፡ ሁሉ ፣ ለማወጣጣት ፣ የሚያስፈልግ ፡ መሆኑን ፣ ባረጋ ገጽም ፡ ሃገር ሰዎች ፣ ሌላም ፣ ሃገንጋይ ፡ ለመፈጸም ፡ የሚያስፈልግ ፡ መሣሪያ ፣ ሁሉ ፣ ከኢትዮጵያ ፡ ግዛት ፣ ገብቶ ፡ ሳለ ፡ ረገ ፡ ሽጎጉሉ ፣ ያረሰ ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ፈጽሞ ፡ ከተማሰለ ፡፡

፬ ሥርዓት ፡፡

መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ የ ሰው ፡ ንብረትን ፡ ከ ሰው ፡ ለመጠየቅ ፡ ሰረ ዓት ፡ ሰረ ዓት ፡ ሰጥቶ ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ፈጽሞ ፡ ከተማሰለ ፡፡

፭ ሥርዓት ፡

በመሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ጥፋት ደርሶ ፡ የሚያ ደርሰው ፡ ሰው ፡ ከብቱን ፡ ሰርቶ ፡ ሰጥቶ ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ፈጽሞ ፡ ከተማሰለ ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ዓመት ፡ በታች ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ያለመ ሳ ፡ ሃገንያ ፣ የመሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ጥፋት ደርሶ ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡

ሃገንያ ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ሥርዓም ፡ በ ር ያ ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከ ሰመረ ሱ ፡ የሚ ወሰባ ፡ ሃገ ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለሰዓ ወጡጣ ት ፣ መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ፈጽሞ ፡ ከተማሰለ ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡

ሃገንያ ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ሥርዓም ፡ በ ር ያ ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከ ሰመረ ሱ ፡ የሚ ወሰባ ፡ ሃገ ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለሰዓ ወጡጣ ት ፣ መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ሰው ፡ ከብት ፡ ጋር ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ዓመት ፡ በታች ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ሥርዓም ፡ በ ር ያ ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከ ሰመረ ሱ ፡ የሚ ወሰባ ፡ ሃገ ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለሰዓ ወጡጣ ት ፣ መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ሰው ፡ ከብት ፡ ጋር ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ዓመት ፡ በታች ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ሥርዓም ፡ በ ር ያ ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከ ሰመረ ሱ ፡ የሚ ወሰባ ፡ ሃገ ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለሰዓ ወጡጣ ት ፣ መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ሰው ፡ ከብት ፡ ጋር ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ዓመት ፡ በታች ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡ ሃገንያ ፡ ወርቅም ፡ ሥርዓም ፡ በ ር ያ ፡ ሌላም ፡ ከ ሰመረ ሱ ፡ የሚ ወሰባ ፡ ሃገ ር ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለሰዓ ወጡጣ ት ፣ መሬት ፡ ሌላ ፡ ከብት ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ሰው ፡ ከብት ፡ ጋር ፡ ሰው ፡ ሲሰራ ፡ ያ ደረገ ጣ ው ፡ ከጉ ፓ ኒ ዮ ሽ ፡ ከ ሰሚ ደ ሰው ፡ ከሆነ ፡ ከ ፲ ፭ ዓመት ፡ በታች ፡ ፲ ፭ ወሯ ት ፡ ወርቅ ፡ መልሶ ወ ፣ ለ ኢትዮጵያ ፡ ሃገር ፡ መንግሥት ፡ ይሰ ጣ ሉ ፡፡

መሣሪያ ፡ ሁሉ ፡ ለ ዋ ጋ ሌ ሙ ዳ ፡ ወ ይ ም ፡ ለ ማ ን ኛ ው ም ፡ ወ ገ ን ፡ ሊ ሰ ጥ ፡ አ ል ች ል ም ። ስ ለ ዚ ህ ም ፡ ይ ህ ን ፡ ፈ ቃ ዳ ች ን ፡ ለ ማ ጽ ና ት ፡ ይ ቻ ል ፡ ዘ ን ድ ፡ ይ ህ ን ፡ ጽ ሕ ፈ ት ፡ በ እ ን ግ ሊ ዝ ኛ ና ፡ በ ፈ ረ ን ሳ ይ ኛ ፡ ቋ ን ቋ ፡ ጽ ፈ ን ፡ ሁ ለ ት ፡ ቅ ጂ ዎ ች ፡ አ ዘ ጋ ጅ ተ ን ፡ ለ እ ያ ን ዳ ን ዳ ቸ ው ፡ ፈ ር መ ን ፡ ከ ፈ ር ም ን ፡ በ ፊ ር ማ ችን ፡ ላ ይ ፡ ፈ ር መ ን ፡ ከ ፈ ር ም ን ፡ ሰ ጠ ን ። ፡፡

Signé J. W. Lane

Sealed & signed
in the presence of

Alfred [illegible]
Conseiller d'Etat
Zurich (Switzerland)

Signé W.B. Washenall
The Bam
Exmouth,
England

279. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Salāmgi Camp 28 January 1900

ሞዓ፡አፄበሓ፡ዘኣምላንን፡ይሁዳ፡ዳግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሥዬመ፡አጣዦ አህ
ሐር፡ነጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ፡ ይ ይ፣ሰ፡ከቢዱይ፡ ፦ኢልግ፡አፄ ዊኵ፡
ሰኒህ ትሳል፡እኒ፡አጣዦ አህሐር፡ይመ ስገኑ፡ዬሳኖ፡፡ የ ድኅነ ይ፡ከ ሲኢ፡
በ ደገሩ፡ሁሎ፡ፌልጉ፡ህ ዬ፡ልኢ፡ሃበር፡ተጉሉት፡ትገኑ፡ህ ለ ሠኩ፡ ቢ ደመ ሙልኛ፡
ይ ኽ ው፡ሰ ድ ፈ ሳለሁ፡ የ ሰደጽ፡ኩልህ ም፡ቅ አደ ኑ ት፡ኑ ው ና፡ መ ሆ ኑ፡አደ
መ ሆ ኑኝ፡ አ ይ ት ህ፡ ኣ ኛ ድ ቱ ልክ ህ ት፡ ይ ሁ ኛ ።፡ በ ጥ ር፡ በ ፭ ቀ ን ፡በ ሰ ሓ ም ዪ፡ሰ
ሌ ር፡ ት ዪ ሌ ፡ ባ ፤ ፫ ፤ ፯ ፯ ዒ መ ተ ፡ ዓ ሰ ሰ ፣ ፡ ።

280. Gezāw to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 26 February "1900"

281. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Addis Ababā 8 April 1900

ማለ ፣ እኅ በ ሉ ፡ ዘ እ ግዐ ነ ግ ጺ ፡ ፱ ሁ ፩ ፡ ፈ ቃ ማ ዊ ፡ ግዐ ኀ ል ክ ፡ ሠ ፍ መ ፡ እ ግ ዞ ኢ ላ ሐ ር ፡ ጌ ጉ ሠ ነ ፡ ነ ግ ኦ ሀ ት ፡ ዘ እ ኑ ት ዊ ኵ ፩ ። ፱ ድ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ቢ ሯ ፱ ጱ ። ኢ ል ግ ፡ ኤ ግ ጺ ኑ ። ሉ ኔ ሣ ቱ ሃ ል ፡ ኑ ኔ ። እ ግ ዞ እ ኅ ሐ ር ፡ ፱ ጠ ዐ ለ ገ ኒ ፱ ፈ ሩ ና ፡ ነ ኛ ። ከ ኤ ግ ዞ እ ኅ ሐ ር ። ዘ ገ ድ ፡ ፱ ታ ዘ ዝ ፡ መ ከ ራ ፡ የ ወሳ ፱ ቀ ር ፡ ሰ እ ሆ ነ ፡ ፯ ላ ሰ ኅ ክ ኑ ት ፡ ኤ ፪ ጋ ፡ ኦ ግ ና ች ። ራ ስ ፡ ፩ ር ጌ ፡ በ ጠ ዐ ጋ ቢ ኑ ፡ በ ፲ ፫ ቀ ኔ ። ሳ ፣ ፲ ፱ ፯ ፬ ካ ኅ ዞ ፡ ወ ራ ኑ ት ፡ ጠ ዐ ሉ ጠ ዐ ም ፡ በ ኒ ላ ፡ እ ረ ኡ ። ፱ ኔ ፡ ኒ ዘ ኛ ፡ ያ ግ ኑ ት ፡ ኒ ዘ ኛ ፡ ስ እ ሆ ነ ኒ ዘ እ ኔ ኛ ፡ እ ኅ ሳ ፡ ለ ሳ ለ ሁ ። ጠ ነ ቢ ኑ ፡ ሀ ነ ቀ ኛ ፡ እ ጁ ሰ ፡ እ በ ግ ፡ ከ ተ ጠ ፣ ፲ ፲ ፱ ፯ ፬ ዓ መ ተ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ኑ ፡ ተ ጓ ፊ ።

282. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 9 April 1900

ወፃ፡ አጓበሳ፡ዘእምነገጸ፡ደሁጸ፡ጸላማዊ፡ምኒ.ልክ፡ሥ
ቍመ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ ።።
ደውረስ፡ከቢቍጸፍ፡ኢሉግ፡እንሂት፡ሰንሳተላ።።
እኔ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ደመሠንጎ፡ጸሓናት፡ነኝ።።አገር
ህስ፡በደህና፡ገባህ።።ል ጀኹህስ፡ሚስትህስ፡ደሓ
ና፡ገቡልህ፡።።ምነው፡በደሓና፡መሳባትክ፡አሳ
ክህሳኝ።።ወዉ ሲ፡ነኝ ሩ ኔ ምን፡አጓት፡ከዚ ድህ፡ዝ ም
ሮ፡እስካሁን፡አሳከሳኝ ም።።አሁን፡ሳን፡እግሏደ
ህ፡ል መጣ፡ነው፡ሳሎ፡ሳከሳኝ።።እኔ ም፡አጓት፡ዚ
ጸህ፡ሳቻ ሮ ን፡ነኝና፡እሱ፡ቍሎ፡ቢመጣል ኝ፡እወ
ጸሐሁ።።በሚ ያዝ ደ፡በ ፩ ፪ ፫ ፬ ፭ ፮ ፯ ፰ ፱ ፲ ፳ ፴ ፵ ፶ ፷ ፸ ፹ ፺ ፻ መሳ፡
ምሐረኩ፡ባደስ፡አበባ፡ከተማ፡ተጻፈ።።

283. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā, 17 May 1900

ሞሳ፡ እኝበሳ፡ ዘአማነገ፱፡ደሁ፩፡ሂግጠግዊ፡ማኒልአዝ፡ሠዩ፡ጠዐ፡
እግዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢ.ት.ዮ፡ጵ፱፡፡ ደርሊስ፡ከ
ቢሓሂድ፡አ.ፈግ፡እኝሊሉ፡ሰንሃ፡ዝኑሳልፈ፡እኔ፡እግዚአብሔ
ር፡ደ ጠዐሠገኝ፡ሂ ኳነ፡ነኝ ። ንፂዩ፡ን፡ሁ፡ሰ፡እንደ ልጉ፡ልህ፡
በደብደቤ፡የ ጠቢደልኵ፡አደሂለ ሞ። እግዚአብሔር፡በደ
ህነ፡ቢደአለርመዐን፡ጠዐ ፕኑ፡ህ፡በ ፕኵ ማዐኑ። እንዲ፡ንገናኝ፡ደሁን።
በ ፕኵ ማዐ ት፡ሓ ሂደንህን፡ሳለየው፡ ለ ልቅር፡ለ ሂደራ፡ለ ሂደራ፡ዝዬ
ሃለሁ። እግዚ አብሔር፡በ ደህ ና፡ለ ጠዐገ ና ኑ ት፡ደ ዝ ቃ ን ።—
በ ግ ን በ ት፡በ ፱ ቀን፡ግ ሂ ስ፡ለ በ ግ፡ ዝ ት ጣ፡ ት ጸ ፈ ። ።— ።>
ባ ፲ ፲ ፱ ፯ ፰ ዓ ጠዐ ት፡ ጣዐ ሐ ረ ት፡ ።> ።

284. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 27 May 1900

ዊተላክ፡ ከእቲጌ፡ ጣይቱ፡ ከርሃፃ፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ።

ሚድሊሰ፡ ከቢጥሂድ፡ ኤልግ፡ እፃዊት፡ ሰፃከተሃልፅ።

እኔ፡ እግዚአከሩ፡ ይመስገፃ፡ ይጓና፡ ነኝ።፡ ካገርህስ፡

በደጓና፡ ንግህፃ።ከዚህ፡ ሰፃሰነባበት፡ ይጓፃነቲፃ፡ ጭሎ ፡

ጭሎ፡ እልክከዎታለሁ፡ ከለኸኝ፡ ነበር።፡ አሁን፡ ከዘመዴ

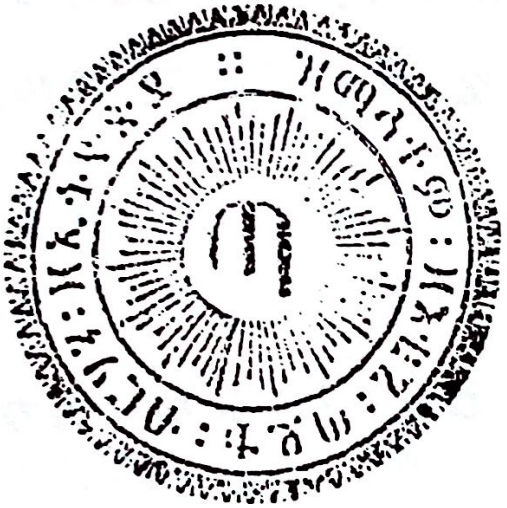
ችህ፡ ጋር፡ ከትገናኘ፡ ነው፡ ፃ፡ ዊረሳኸኝ።፡ አሁንም፡ ይጓ

ንነትህን፡ ላክከኝ።፡ ለምሽትህም፡ ሰላምታ፡ ንግርልኝ።

ልጅህስ፡ በደጓና፡ ንግልህ።፡ ዊዊው ሮም ፃ፡ ወረ፡ ሁሉ ፡

ጭሎ፡ ጭሎ፡ ላክከኝ።፡ከግንቦት፡ በ[illegible] ቲን፡ [illegible]

ፃመተ፡ ምሕረት።፡ በሐዲስ፡ አበባ፡ ከተጣ፡ ተጻፈ።



285. Asfāw Bāntē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel ... "June 1900"

ደ ሮ ረ ሰ፡ ከ ክ ሱ ር ፡ ከ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡ ከ ባ ቴ ፡
ከ ዮ ቴ ፡ ከ ቤ ት ፡ ወ ደ ድ ፡ ኤ ሐ ግ ፡ ጊ
ታ ዊ ፡ ጤ ዮ ወ ን ፡ እ ደ ም ን ፡ ሰ ን ከ ተ
ወ ሕ ፡ ቶ ቴ ፡ በ ር ሰ ዎ ፡ ው ቃ ቤ ፡ ዲ ህ ና ነ ሽ ፡
ጊ ታ ዊ ፡ ደ ህ ው ፡ መ ዳ ኗ ን ሠ ደ ፡ ወ ዳ ፡ ኤ ቲ ን ፡
ደ ህ ው ፡ ወ ረ ቀ ት ፡ ን ሥ ሐ ለ ሁ ፡ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡
ሉ ሥ ላ ሴ ፡ መ ስ ን ን ሴ ፡ ን ሥ ሐ ለ ሁ ፡ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡
ያ ድ ር ሁ ሬ ሽ ፡ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡ — ፲ ግ ዜ ፡ እ ሺ ፡ ኢ ነ ሰ
ላ ሁ ፡ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡

ደ ሳ ሬ ፡ ኢ ኽ አ ር ዎ ፡ ኢ ሰ ሌ ሙ ፡ በ ን ቴ ፡ ኑ ኖ ቲ ክ ፣

ጊ ታ ዊ ፡ አ መ ር አ ት ፡ ን ሐ ት ው ፡ እ ሺ ቡ ቲ ፡ በ ዲ ህ ና ፡
መ ደ ር ሰ ዎ ን ፡ ያ ሳ ሙ ሽ ፡ ጊ ታ ዊ ፡——

286. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 2 July 1900

ዋፋ፡ አገበሳ፡ ዘአ ምኑገሊ፡ ይሁኗ፡ ደኅጣዊ፡ ምኑልክ፡ ሠዊ
ወ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ጓጉሠ፡ ነገሠት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ።።
ይድረስ፡ ከቢጥዲድ፡ ኢልሳ፡ አግዚቶ፡ ሰኗ ብተሂልኑ፡ እ
ኔ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ይ ጠ ሠገኝ፡ ፱ፋና፡ ነኝ።። ከሊድህ፡ዝ
ግዐ ፡ አሰ ካሁኝ፡ ፩ጊዜ፡ አግኟ፡ ይዛ ፱ ቤህ፡ ጠጥ፡ጉለ
ኛ፡ አ፱ ው ሱ ግዐ።። አግተ፡ ላኝ፡ እግድ ሱ ልክ፡ አ ው ቃለሁ።።
ከ ጠፀ ግ ድ፡ ፪ ጠ ፱ ሉ ቀ ረ ው፡ ነገር፡ አግ፱ ለ፡ ነ ው፡ አግ ፪ ።።
አ ሁ ግዕ፡ ሱ ድ ዋ ፡ ፪ ግ ሱ ስ ድ ከ ት ግ፡ ት ተ ህ ፡ ፱ ግ ዋ ፡ በ
ሌ ለ ፡ ሠ ፍ ራ ፡ አ ግ ድ ት ል ክ ነ ኛ ፡ ይ ሁ ኝ ።። በ ሰ ኒ ፡ በ ፭ ፫
ቀ ጊ ፡ ባ ፲ ፬ ፱ ፮ ፺ ፯ ጠ ፀ ተ ፡ ግ ሐ ረ ት ፡ አ ዲ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ
ጣ ፡ ተ ጸ ፈ ።።

Documents

287. Yebsā to Alfred Ilg

... 22 July 1900

ፍ ድ ሬ ለነ ፡ ካ ለ ቢ ጫ ፡ ዲ ድ ፡ ጠ
ለኤ ፡ ፱ ል ፣፡ ጌ ታ ፡ ፱ ፡ ከ ሥ ሉ ያ
የ ጓ ፡ እ ለ ግ ዙ ጓ ፡ እ ን ፍ ቅ ፡ ነ
ጓ ዛ ሥ ዋ ሬ አ ኒ ፡ ያ ህ ፍ ፡ ሰ ጓ ዛ
ች ፡ ለ ሉ ፡ ኤ ሁ ጓ ፡ ል ጠ ሐ ክ ሉ ፡
በ ሐ ሙ ሊ ፡ በ ኒ ሩ ቂ ጓ ፡ ዓ ገ ሩ ፡
ጠ ሬ ች ፡ ላ ች ፡ ጌ ታ ፡ ፱ ፡ አ ሥ
ጓ ያ ፱ ፡ አ ደ ር ለ ሊ ች ፡ በ ሓ ያ ሉ ፡
በ ፲ ፫ ኑ ጓ ፡ ሥ ዓ ፈ ፡

288. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Addis Ababā 17 August 1900

ሞላ፡አጌበላ፡ዘኤምሃገሯ፡ይሁኗ፡ዕጓማዊ፡ምኦልዝ፡ሠዊመ፡እ
ግዝአብሔር፡ኂጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ። ይድረስ፡ለቢ
ጉዷው፡ኤልግ፡እየዪት፡ሰላብትሃፊ፡እኔ፡ኤግዝአብሔር፡ደ
መሠገኟ፡ደረና፡ናቼ።፡ሰትሂው፡የሞታመጣልኛን፡ዕቃ፡ሁሉ፡
በማሰታዋሻ፡ሸንጓዋ፡ዘጉግቼ፡ክሉ፦ሮጢትር፡ሰላት፡
ሳ ልኑግርህ፡ቀር ቻ ለሁ። መሰለኛ። አሁንም፡ከሁሉ፡የበ
ለጠውኑ፡ማእሌይውኑ፡ዊሰዓት፡ክሉ፦ሮ ጢትር፡ኤኑድታ
መጣልኛ፡ ይሁኑ። ደይኑ፡መነኖርም፡ትልቅም፡ትኑሸሜ፡ዓ
ይኑት፡ኤኑድታመጣልኛ፡ ክሮ፡ሰትሂው፡ኑግሬህ፡ነበር።
እኑደይ ዘነጋ፡ይሁኑ። ጫጫሮ፡ከጅቡቲ፡ኤሰደለሁ፡ላ
ለኸኛ፡ነበር፡ሸጉጡኑ፡ሰ ትሰድልኛ፡ጫ ማውኑ፡አልሰደ
ድ ህልኛም። በተሬ ፌ፡ዊሞታመጣልኛኑ፡ዕሂ፡ሁሉ፡ሰት
ሂድ፡ዊኣፍነውኑ፡ማስ ታወሻ፡ጣዊት፡ነው።፡ደግመሰ፡እ
ኔ፡ዊሞ ሬልግውኑ፡ሁሉ፡እኑቱ፡ታውቀ ው፡ዊለማኑ። ምኖ፡
ማስ ታወሻ፡ዊሰሬልጋል፡ ብዬ፡ነው፡ኢላውኑ፡ሁሉ፡ደ
ልኣፍ ኩልህ። ይ ልቱ፡በጥቅምት፡እመጣለሁ፡ብለህ፡ዊላክ
ኸውኑ፡ዲብደቢ፡እደቱ፡እዚሁ፡ሰላገኙሁህ፡ደህል፡ቁጥረ
ው፡ኧ ስ፦ብሉ ኖል።፡ነሐሴ፡፲፩ቁኑ፡፲ ፲ ፱ ፲፱ዓመተ፡ም
ኣ ሒ፡ ኑ ሀ ኤ. ኑ ለበ.ኳሒ ጣ፡ ተ ኢ ፈ።።

289. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 August 1900

ደ ጽሬስ፡ከክቡር፡ወዲጂ፡ከቢጥደጭ፤ኢ
ሴግ፡ጢና፡ደ ስጥልኝ፡ብዬ፡እጅ፡እነሣለ
ሁ።እጬጉግ፡እግዲኑ፡ነዎ።እና፡እግዘአብ
ሔር፡ደመሠግግ፡ዳኅና፡ነሽ።በሰኔ፡በሕቅ
ግ፡በዙሪክ፡ከተማ.ዋተጓ ረ፡ደማረ፡ዳብ
ዳቢዎ፡ዷረስልኝ።ሰላምታ፡ግገርልሻ፡
ደኡኛንግመ፡ላግታጅንግመ፡ለወዲጂ ጅ
ዎ.ለግለሚኡጅ፡ሁኡ፡እንዷላኩብ
ኝ፡ነግሬአለሁ።ግራ ዝማጅ፡ዊሲዋ፡
ግን፡በከሰ፡ምክን ደት፡አመት፡ነበር፡
በዚደው ዋተነሣ፡በሰኔ፡በ፲፩ቀን፡አረ
ሬ፡ወንድማጅግን፡ኮሳዳን።እርሱዎ
ም፡እስከሁን፡ደህ፡ወሬ፡ሳደ ደርስልኬ
ዎ፡አደሥርም።እርሱዎ፡ግን፡መሞቱ
ን፡ሳደሰሙ፡እንደነቢደት፡ሁኡ፡ንራዝ
ማጅ፡ዊሲዋ፡ሞተወ ደ፡ወደስ፡እግቲ
ልፍ፡ወሰዳ ወደ፡ብለው፡ቢልኩብኝ፡
እጬግ፡ደነሥኝ።ደግሞ፡ሰላምን፡የሚ
ባል፡አገር፡ ወዲት፡ነው፡ብለው፡የላኩ

ብኻ ም ። ሰ ቃ ። ማ ነ ቂ መ ጪ ። የ ሚ ዊ ን ። ሠ
ፍ ራ ። ጂ ን ዊ ያ ። ሲ ያ ነ ሬ ሐ ጉ ። እ ር ነ ዋ
ም ። እ ዘ ሁ ። ሣ ሉ ። ያ ው ቁ ። ነ በ ር ። ። አ ሁ ን
ም ። ቡ ሐ ጋ ። ላ ይ ። ሰ ላ ም ጊ ። የ ሚ ባ ል ። ደ ላ
ና ። በ ታ ። ቱ ገ ኛ ው ። መ ሐ ካ ም ። ከ ተ ማ ። ቱ ነ
ራ ። ። የ ካ ቲ ት ። ሲ ገ ባ ። ት ዝ ም ሮ ። እ ነ ኔ ። ድ
ረ ነ ። አ ጥ ሩ ም ። ት ጥ ሩ ም ። ሰ ደ ተ ር ። ት
ጨ ር ነ ። ት ነ ራ ። ። የ ር ነ ዋ ። ኹ ም ። ግ ጌ ። አ ጣ ።
መ ሐ ጸ ። ጸ ድ ቅ ። የ መ ኰ ን ። ነ ው ። አ ዞ ። የ ሰ
ላ ም ጊ ። ቤ ት ። ሲ ነ ራ ። ለ መ ጣ ሬ ሪ ያ ። የ ሚ
ዊ ን ። ካ ደ ነ ። አ በ ባ ። ማ ረ ኸ ና ። ድ ጅ ሮ ። አ
ው ጥ ጭ ። ከ ነ ላ ም ጊ ። ት መ ለ ነ ። ። ከ ዚ ያ ። በ ቂ
ር ። ሌ ላ ። ሠ ራ ። አ ል ነ ራ ም ። ። ጂ ን ዊ ያ ም ። የ
ር ነ ዋ ን ። ኹ ም ። አ ጣ ። መ ሐ ጸ ። ጸ ድ ቅ ን ። አ
ነ ጠ ር ተ ው ። ነ ላ ም ጊ ። ማ ረ ኸ ና ። ድ ጅ
ሮ ። ነ ላ ነ ጣ ህ ል ኛ ። በ ዚ ህ ። ም ክ ን ያ ት ።
የ ቢ ሯ ዳ ድ ። ኢ ሊ ኣ ። ሠ ራ ። እ ር ኸ ው ም ። ።
ሌ ላ ው ም ። የ ቢ ቱ ። ሠ ራ ። ሁ ሉ ። እ ን ጹ ያ
ቀ ር ብ ህ ። ብ ለ ው ። ት ጣ ጭ ተ ው ። ነ ን ረ ው

ታ ል ። የ ሚ ጐ ድ ል ብ ዎ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ የ ለ ። ። ነ ገ ር ፡ ግ ን ፡ ሙ ሲ ፡ ሽ ፍ ኔ ፡ ሳ መ ጡ ት ፡ ለ ጂ ን ሆ ይ ፡ ማ ሳ ተ ም ፡ የ ሚ ሆ ን ፡ ቆ ቀ ለ ም ፡ አ ን ዲ ያ መ ጡ ል ኝ ፡ ብ ፎ ፡ ነ ግ ሬ ዎ ፡ ነ በ ር ። ። አ ሁ ን ም ፡ እ ን ዳ ያ ዘ ነ ጋ ፡ ማ ስ ታ ዋ ሲ ፡ ነ ው ። ። እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ በ ሐ ያ ወ ት ፡ ለ መ ግ ና ኘ ት ፡ ያ ብ ቃ ን ። ። ነ ሐ ሴ ፡ ፲ ፬ ቀ ን ፡ ፲ ፲ ፱ ፯ ፭ ዓ መ ት ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ፡ አ ደ ሰ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፡ ሁ ሓ ፈ ። ።

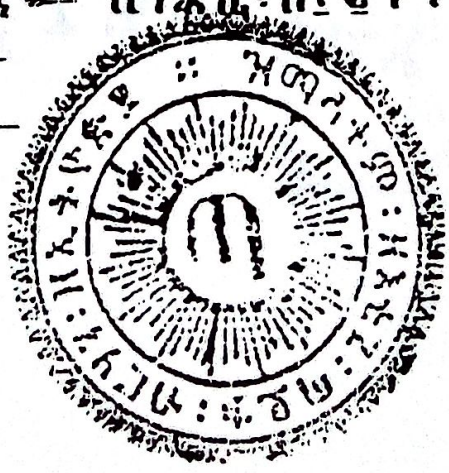
290. Menilek II to Alfred IIg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900

ሜሜ፡ አገበሳ፡ ዘኤሞነገዪ፡ ደሁኗ፡ ዳግማዊ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ሠዊመ፡እን
ዲ እብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነገሥት፡ ዘኢትዮጵያ። ደጅረስ፡ከቢጥያጅ፡
ኤልግ፡ ኔቫዲት፡ ሰጉበትሃል፡ እኔ፡ እግዚ አብሔር፡ ያመሰገኘ፡
ጀሳና፡ ነኝ። በሰኔ፡በ፴ ሳግ፡ በዙ ሪዝ፡ ከተጣ፡ የተጻሬ፡ኗነ
ደቢህ፡ ጸኟ ሐሴ፡ ጠ፬ቀግ፡ ደረሰልኝ። ከጅቡቲ፡ከሂድህ፡ሥ
ሞሮ፡ ከዚህ፡ በቀር፡ ሬላ፡ ደነደቢ፡ አልደረሰልኛም። ናገር፡
ግግ፡ እመገገጅ፡ የ ጠቂ ያሰቀር፡ ተግ ከለኝ፡ እነዳለነበኝ፡ ሂው፡እ
ንጂ፡ አነተማ፡ ሳትጅፍልኛ፡ ትቀራለህ፡ ነበሩ፡ አል ጠረጥርም።
እኔም፡ ከ ጅቡቲ፡ የሰደጅክልኛ፡ ሽጉጥ፡ ደረሰችልኛ፡ ነበሩ፡
ደጎሜ፡ ሌላ፡ ደነደቢ፡ ነ ዙ፡ ጊዜ፡ ጅሬ ልህ፡ ነበር። ግደደር
ሰልህ፡ ነው፡ እግጂ። እሁሂም፡ የሆነውን፡ ነገር፡ ሁሉ፡ ጭሎ፡ጭ
ሎ፡ እነጅትልክሃኛ፡ ደሁኗ። ጠላጭችህም፡ የሚደወሉት፡ወ
ሬ፡ እነኳን፡ የመቅረትክኝ፡ ሜቱም፡ ነበለው፡ አውርተው ነህ፡
ነበር። እኔ፡ ግግ፡ ሰጅሂጅ፡ የተናጋገርነው፡ ቃል፡ አለየ፡ ሰል
ቡናዬ፡ ጥ ርማሬም፡ እላገሁበትም። ባቡሩም፡ እገራጅግ፡
መጅረሱ፡ ጂሰ፡ ነበሎኛ፡ ነበር። በጦርነት፡ ምክንያት፡ ግገራ
ችሁ፡ ገኘእነ፡ ወመወደጁግ፡ ነጅትልክሃኛ፡ እጅግ፡ አሳዘነኛ።
አሁሂም፡ ሰጥቅም ት፡ ቷንሥጅ፡ እመጣለሁ፡ ደልከውግ፡ ቃ

ል፡ እያቹ፡ እጅግ፡ ደሰ፡ አለኛ፡፡ ኤሰካሁኝ፡ ዝቻዪኝ፡ እባያኑቀ
መጥኩ፡ ታውቃለህና፡ ጭሎ፡ ሬኖርህ፡ትያርሰልኛለህ፡ዝዪ፡
ተሰፋ፡ አለኛ፡፡ ወሬውኝም፡ ሁሉ፡ዋጓርክልኛን፡ እየሁት፡፡ ያ
ሰፋው፡ ግዢትም፡ ነገር፡ ዋጓክህዛኛን፡ እኒም፡ ዲኸው፡ ወረቀ
ት፡ ልኪለታለሁ፡፡ በፓሪስ፡ከተማ፡ ያየኸውን፡ ሁሉ፡ ለመጓ
ፍ፡ አልችልም፡ ያልከውን፡ እግዚኣብሔር፡ በሂሳና፡ ያገናኑ
ኝ፡ ኤባቺ፡ ሁሉም፡ ነገር፡ ሰላገናኛ፡ ታጪው፡ትኛለህ፡፡
ነገር፡ ግኔ፡ ከዚያው፡ እየሁት፡ ካልኸው፡ ቁጓል፡ ሦጓል፡ነገር፡
ስትመ ጣ፡ እኔጂ ታመጣልኛ፡ ያሁኝ፡፡ ኤኒ ፡የት ወለድኩ
በትጓም፡ቁኔ፡ጊዜውኔ፡ኤሰበህ፡ አሰቂ ድመህ፡መጓክህ፡
ያሰ፡ አለኛ፡፡ እግዚኣብሔር፡ ቸር፡ ኑውና፡ ለሁሳችጓም፡
ሰጭጣ፡ ሰዋጭኔ፡ ሳጊለያይ፡ በየዓመቱ፡ በሂሳና፡ ያጭር
ስኔ፡፡ ለጣሰትህም፡ ለልጂችህም፡ ሰላም ታ፡ ሰጥልኛ፡፡
እግዚኣብሔር፡ በሂሳና፡ አገናኛችኔ፡ ሃል፡ ለሃል፡ ለመ
ጪወት፡ ያብቃኝ፡፡ ነሐሴ፡፲፬ቂኔ፡ ፲፰፻፺፯ዓመተ፡ም
ሕረት፡ አጂሰ፡ አበ ባ፡ ከተማ፡ ኑጓፊ፡፡

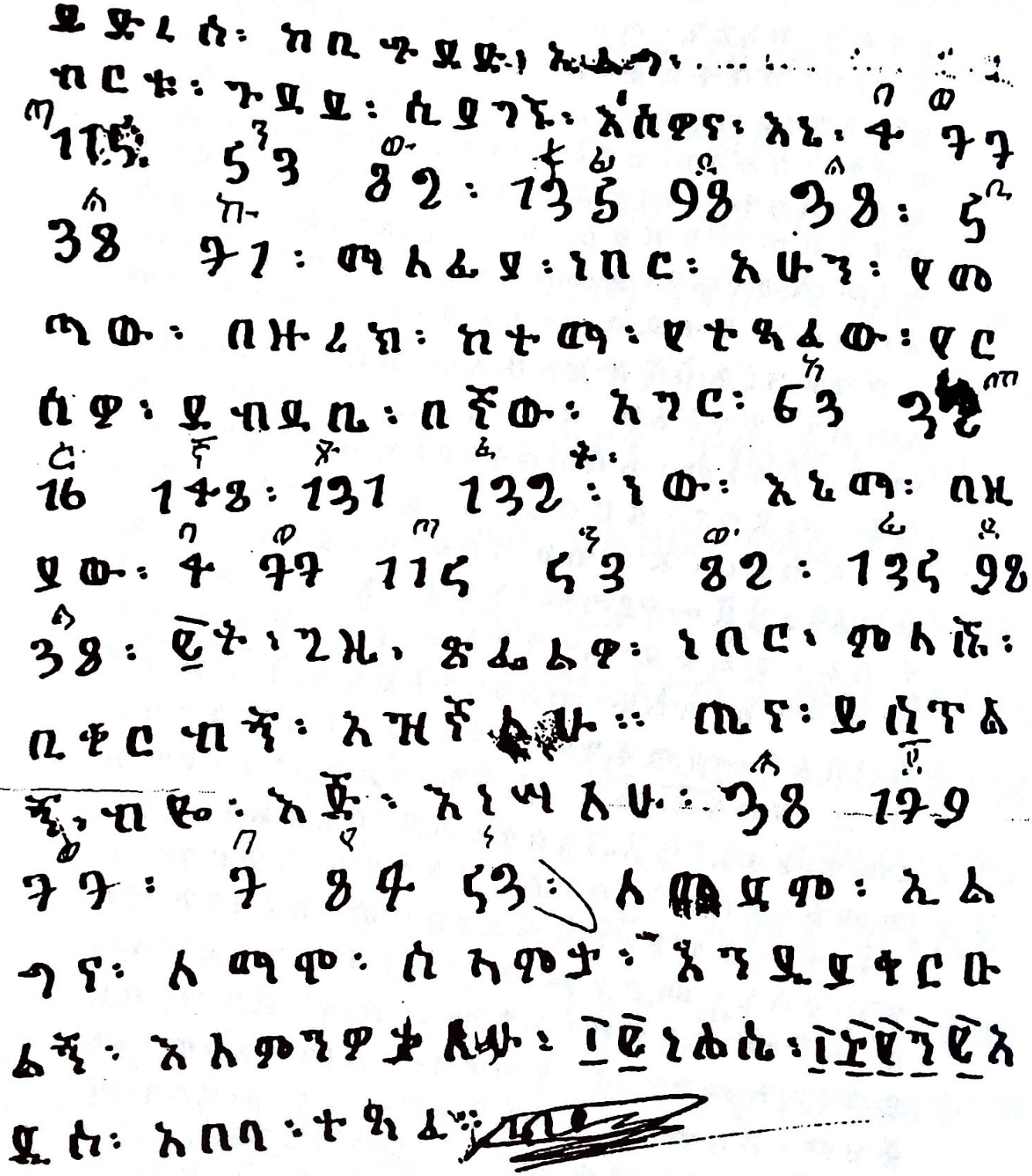
291. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900

የተላከ፡ ከእቲጌ፡ ጣይቱ፡ ከርሳን፡ ዘኢተዮጵያ።
ያድሪሰ፡ ከበቁያድ፡ ኢልግ፡ እንደት፡ ሰንብተኔ፡
እኔ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ይመሥገን፡ ደኅና፡ ነኝ። በሰኔ፡
በ፴ቁን፡ በዙሪክ፡ ከተማ፡ የተጻፈ፡ ያክቧቢህ፡ በነ
ሐሴ፡ በ፭ቁን፡ ደረሰልኝ። ነገር፡ግን፡ አንተ፡ ወደኛ፡የ
ምትልከውን፡ ያክቧቢ፡ ሁሉ፡ እመንግድ፡ እጫያሰ
ቀረው፡ሰው፡ አለ፡ ይመስለኛል። ከጌድክ፡ ጀምሮ፡
እስካሁን፡ ያክያቢህ፡ አልያረሰልንም። አንተማ፡
አሰካሁን፡ አስቸሎህ፡ ሁለት፡ ሶስት፡ ጊዜ፡ ሰት
ልክክን፡ ትቀራለህ፡ ብዬ፡ አልጠረጥርህም። አ
ውሴ፡ ሸፍኒም፡ አሸከሮች፡ የላክኸው፡ የጌጥ፡መ
ሳሪ፡ በደኅና፡ ደርሰልኛል። እኔም፡ ደረሰልኝ፡ብ
ዬ፡ ያክያቢ፡ ልኪብህ፡ነበር፡ ባደደርሰልህ፡ደ
ሦናል፡እንጂ። ያግሞ፡ አይሰ፡ እይነት፡ ሠራ፡የ
ተሰራ፡ ድልድይ፡ አግኝቻለሁ፡ ሸራተኛውንም፡ደ
ዝው፡ እመጣለሁ፡ ብለህ፡ ከትልክብኝ፡ እጅግ፡ደ
ስ፡ አለኝ። የጫኑንም፡ፈትል፡ አደራህን፡ እንዳት
ዘነጋ። የወፍራሙን፡ ሻያነት፡ በመድኃኒት፡ የተነከ
ረውን፡ፈትል፡ ጭለሙ፡አስቀድመህ፡ሰደድልኝ። ግራ
ዝጫት፡ዩሲፍስ፡ በኮሶ፡ምክንያት፡አድርጌ፡ጥ
ቂት፡ቀን፡ አሞት፡ነበር፡ሳናሲ በው፡በድንገት፡ተለ
የን፡የሰኔ፡ ጣርያም፡ለት፡ አደፈ። እግዚአብሔ
ር፡ እኛም፡ እንተም፡ እድጫና፡ ጤና፡ ሰጥቶ፡በሕ
ይወት፡ አመግናኘት፡ያብቃን። ለጫሰትህም፡ለል
ጅህም፡ሰላምታ፡ሰጥልኝ። በነሐሴ፡በ፲፪ቁን፡በ፲
፫፻፺፫ዓመተ፡ምሕረት።
በሐይስ፡አበባ፡ከተጣ፡ተጻፈ።



Documents

292. Bayyana to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900



293. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 25 August "1900"

ደቂ ረስ፡ ከክቡር፡ ወዲ፪፡ ከቢጉ ወደ፪፡ ደሓን፡
ብዙ፡ ሰላም፡ ጠ፡ ሳጌ፡ ደሁ፡
የተፈስ፡ ከራስ፡ መኩ ገን፡ የሐረር፡ ያው
ራ፪ዊ፡ ሁሉ፡ገ፯፡ እኔ ም፡ በደህ፡ ሐረር
ጊ፡ገ ባ ዙ፰ አንቱ፡ ሳን፡ እ፪ን፡ አዮ ር ገህ፡ ያ
ፍቀ ኽ ፮ ፍ፡ ል፪ ት ህስ፡ ሚስ ት ህስ፡ ደህ፡
ደረ ሱል ህ፡ ሰላ ም ታ፡ ን ገ ር ልኝ፡ ደህን፡
ቱህ ን ም፡ እን ፪ ት ል ክብኝ፡ ደ ሁ ን፡ ኢ ሳ ዚ ደ
ክሐ ር፡ በዙ፡ ሰ ላ ም፡ ና፡ ጤ ና፡ ፪ ሰ ፕ ህ፡—
ተጻ ፈ፡ ነ ሐ ሴ፡ ፭ ቀን፡ ሐ ረ ር፡ ከ ተ ጣ፡—

የኢትዮጵያ ጥናትና ምርምር
INSTITUTE OF ETHIOPA
STUDIES
የውጭ አገር ቋንቋዎች
FOREIGN LANGUAGES

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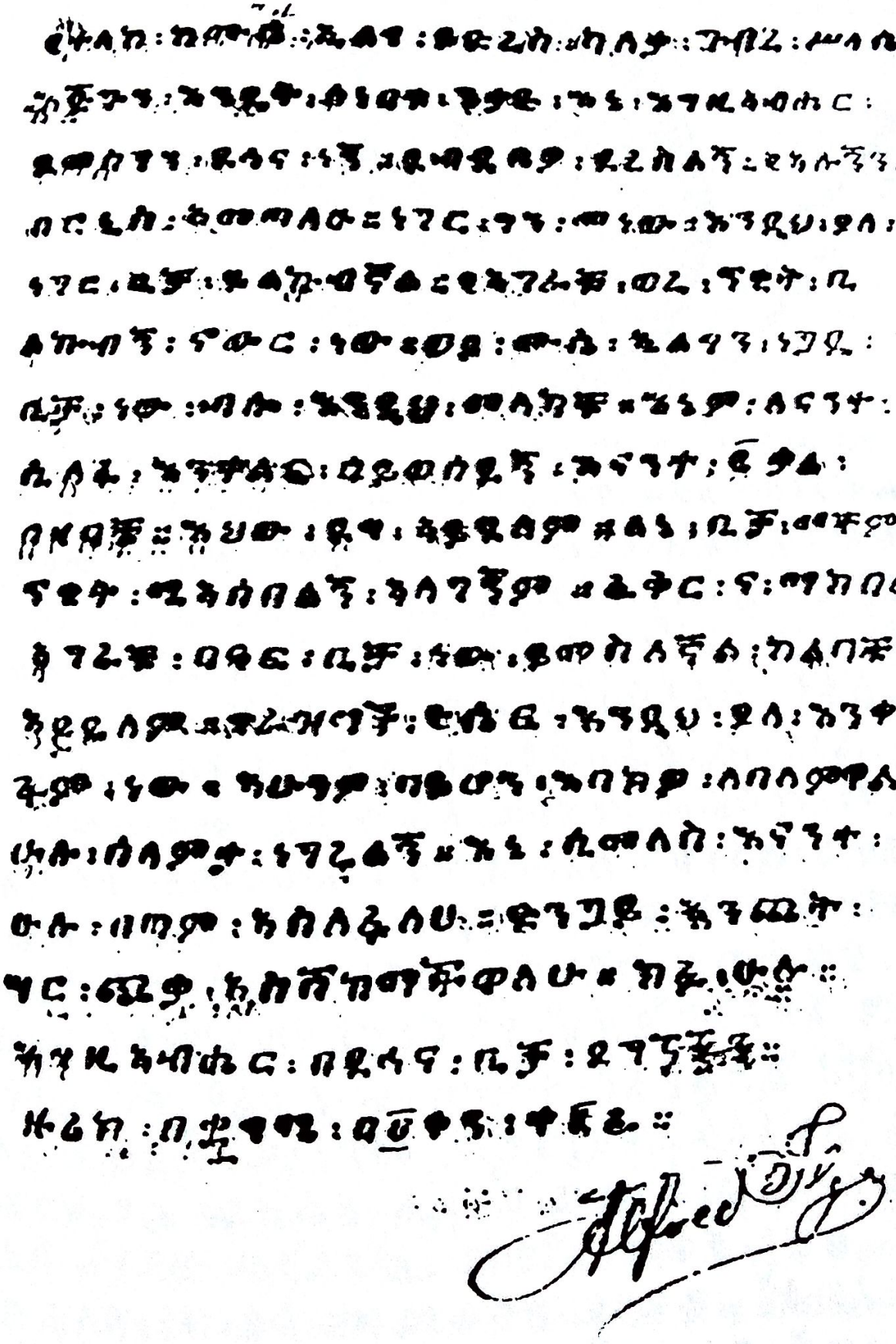
294. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 26 August 1900

ሞዓ፡አግበሳ፡እምነግሄ፡ይሁዳ፡ሄግወግዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሥ፩ዊ
ዙመ፡እግዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ።።ሃዱ
ረስ፡ክቡዛ፡ያሁ፡ኢልግ፡እግዚኦ፡ስግብተሃልል።እኒ፡እግዚ
አብሔር፡ይመሥግን፡ዘሳናነ፡ነሻ።ሙሴ፡ሽፍኒ፡ብር፡ሰ
ያ፡እግዚሠነ፡ብዙ፡፩ጊዜ፡አቡበክር፡፩ጊዜ፡መርሻ
ን፡ሪሁ፡ና፯ሁ፡አፃዐለዑልሻ፡ብዙ፡ፍቡቲ፡ስ፡ሁ፯ቸው፡
ነበር።።ብር፡አልመጣ፡ምክለው።ሳሃወዐለዑልሻ፡ኑ
ወዐልስ።።ወዐ፡ሴ፡ሽፍኒስ፡እዚሃው።ዛሚያቀሂ፡ጉዳሂ፡
አሳችጭኑ፡እግዚሠነ፡ብራ፯፡ቂዳፃዐ፡አሱርጎ፡ቢነ
ያልሻ፡አሂሻልምን።።አሁ፯ፃዐ፡ያወዐወዘኖው።።ወታ
ያርያወዐወዙ፯፡ዛሚቂለልበኑ፡ዛሬ፡ነው።።በቢቲ፡
ብር፡ታናጭ፡ችግ ሮ ኛልና፡ብራ፡ጭሎ፡እ፯ዲመጣል
ሻ፡ይሁ፯።።በነሐስ፡በ፲ሀቂ፯፡በ፲፲ሂ፯ፒያወዐኑ፡
ምሐረኑ፡ግዲስ፡አበግ፡ነብሑግ፡ኑ፯ሬ።።

295. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy
Zurich 12 September "1900"



296. Menilek II to Comboul
"Addis Ababā" 15 September 1900

ሙዳ ፊንበሳ ዘለመነገደ ደሁደ ደግጣዊ ምኒፊክ ሠ
ዊመ አግዚአብሔር ንጉሠ ነገሥት ዘኢትዮጵያ
ዳዊት ከመ ሴ ከምበፊ አንዲት ከር ወሃፊ እኔ
አግዚአብሔር ደመ ሉ ግን ደህና ናች ደግ ደቤህ ም ደ
ረ ሰለኝ ሰለተሰበረው መጽ ና ነፍ ና ሙሉ መሳ
ራ ልገዛ ነው ደል ከዉን ላዛ መልከም ነው ሰራተኛ
ው ጣ መሳራዉ ሲመጣ አሱ ተቀረ ም ን ደሠናል
ባደሠን ሃልሃቱን ሰራ ተኮቻችን እሰቲጣሩ እሰቲለ
ም ጹ ፊዓመት ዱረስ ተቀምጦ ከዚደ በኋላ ሲወ
ጡ ደቀመጣፊ ባደወጡ ወደገሩ ደመለሰልና ሰራተ
ኛዉን አትተው ደዘህ ና ደገኛረኛዉን መሳራ ሙሴ
ከምቦል ልኮልናል ተቀብላችሁ ለኩልኛ ሃዬ ወደጅ
ቡቴ ልኪአለሁ የጣጎቲም መቀረጪ መዘዉር እሰ
ከ መሳራዉ ከዙ ጣር ደፈደል ደል ከዉ ላን ዋጋዉ
ከዙ ከሆነ ደቀር አንተዉ እንዲልከዉ ከደነት ከደ
ነቱ ለክልኛ ዱንጋይ ከሱሉም ጣለሬደ ሆነ ሃለህ ህ
ትልክሃኛ ደሰ አለኝ መልስረም ፈቀን ፲፰፱፯ዓ ዉ
ቱ ምሐረቱ ቱጻፌ

297. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 September 1900

ሞዓ፡አጣበሰ፡ዘእምነገደ፡ይሁዳ፡ዳግማዊ፡ምኒልክ፡ሠራዊመ፡እግ
ዚአብሔር፡ንጉሠ፡ነገሥት፡ዘኢትዮጵያ። ይድረስ፡ከበ
ሬድ፡ኤልጣ፡አግዚት፡ሰን ዝተሃፊ፡እኔ፡እጣ ዚአብሔር፡ይ
መሰግን፡ደኅና፡ነኝ። በነሐሴ፡በ፴ቀኔ፡በዙሪክ፡ከተ ጣ፡የ
ተጻፈ፡ከነመሲቴ፡ከነልጀቹ፡ደኅና፡ነች፡የጢል፡ደብዳ
ቤህ፡በነሐሴ፡በ፴ቀን፡ደረሰልኝ። ከዚህ፡በፌት፡ደብዳቤህ፡ሳ
ይጠ ጣልኝ፡ብዙ፡ጊዜ፡ሰለ ቁሂ፡አዝኜ፡ነበር፡በካጢ ታን፡ች
ከይኑሩ፡እጅ፡የላክኸው፡የ፬ጊዜው ምክ፡ደብዳቤኔ፡ሲደር
ሰልኝ፡በደብዳቤ፡መናጋገር፡የመ ጓናኘት፡ያህል፡ነውና፡እ
ጅጓ፡አኖብቅ፡ደሰ፡አለኝ። ወረ ሙሂ ሃ፡ሁሉ፡የጻፍክልኝ
ጉ፡አየሁ ት። ደግሞ፡እግዚአ ሰው፡ሁሉጣ፡ነኖሮ፡በኑሂ ታን፡
ችኮደከለ፡እጅ፡ጭ ሎ፡ሞ ሎ፡ እጣጅ ት ልክብኝ፡ይሁን። ወ
ደ፡ፓሪ ሰ ም፡ በሂድህ፡ጊዜ፡እኔ፡የ ም ወደሥጣ፡ዕ ቃ፡ታው
ቀዋለ ኔ ና፡ከሊቀ፡መኳስ፡ናደው፡ህራ፡እየ ሞመከከራችሁ፡
አደሰ፡ከ ወ ጣ ው፡መ ሬ ካ ም፡መልነ ኔ ሁ፡ዕ ቃ፡ግዝተህ፡እግ
ጅታመ ጣልኝ፡ደሁጣ። የዘጣ ጅ ሮ ም ፡ክ ረ ም ጭ፡አግራችን፡
እጅጓ፡በርቂጭ፡ከረመ፡ዝናም፡ጓን፡ሰለ፡በዘ፡እህል፡በደግ
ሩ፡ሁሎ፡መ ል ካ ም፡ሆ ኗ ሉ። የጎራ ዘ መ ች፡ ጁ ሴ ፍ ጓ ም፡ ሞ
ቱ፡በቀደ ም፡ል ከጓ ብ ሃ ለ። መ ደ ኃ ኔ ቱ፡ጠ ጭ ቁ በ ዚ ደ ው፡ም

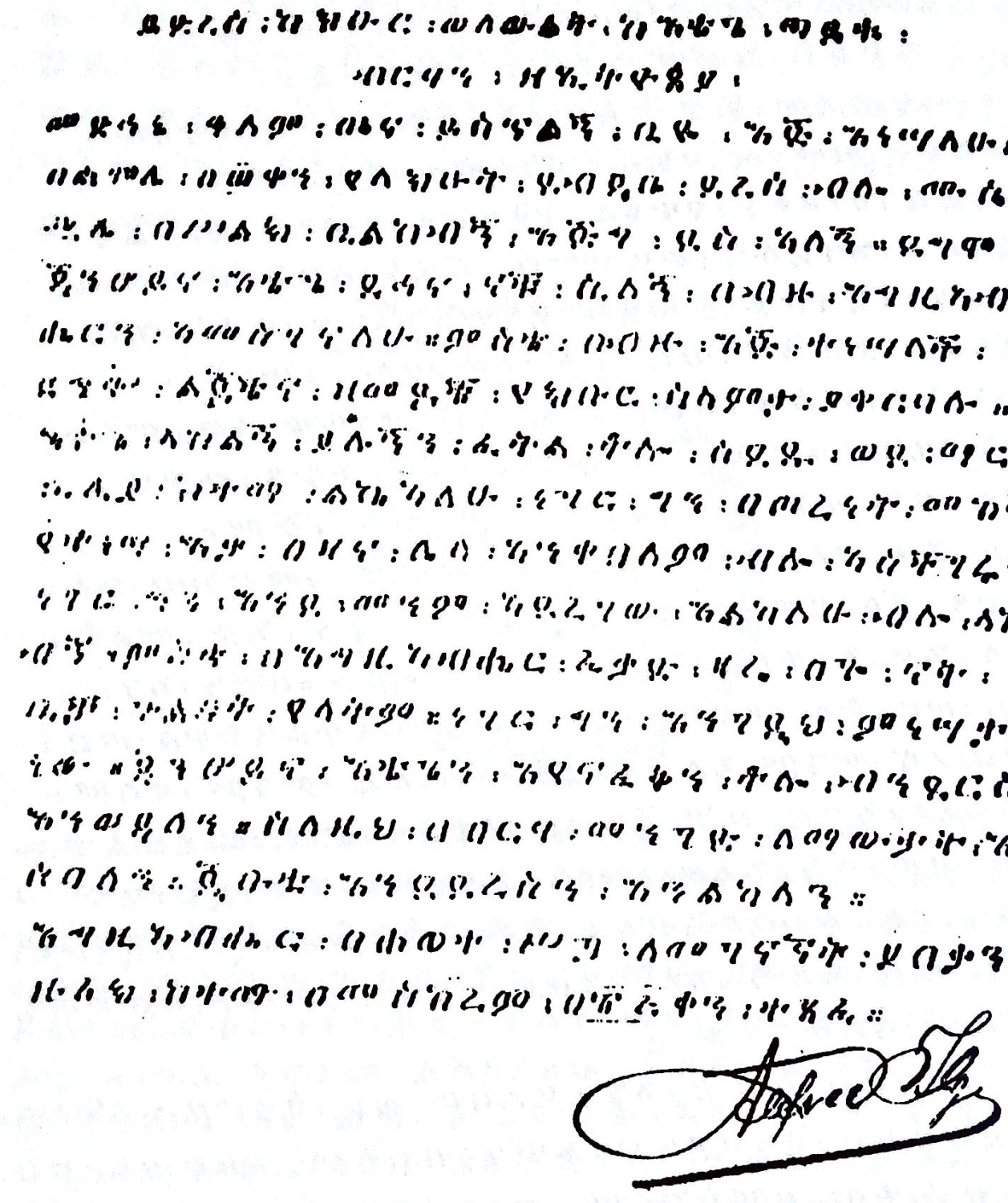
ዝግደቱ፡ሳያሰበው፡ድንገት፡ሞቱ፡እግዚ፡እሱስ፡ደሞታ
ፌ፡ ብለን፡እለሰብግዕ፡ነበር። ለሚሰቱህምኑ፡ለልጅ
ህዬ፡ ሰለመታ፡ሰጥልኛ፡እግዚአብሔር፡በጸፋና፡እምጥ
ቱህ፡ ቃል፡ለቃል፡ለመነጋር፡ደብቃግ። በመሰከረም፡
ባድቀን፡በ፲፰፻፺፬ፌ.ም፡ምስረ ት፡አዲስ፡አበባ፡ካ ተ
ማ፡ተጸፈ።

298. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 September 1900

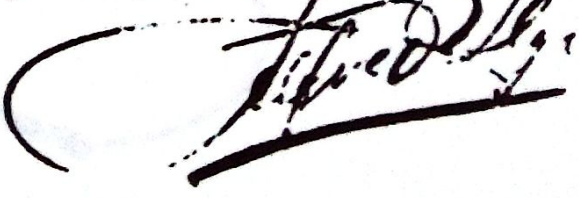
ሞ ፋ፡እኔበሰ ዘእምነገደ ፡ይሁዳ፡ሏማዊ፡ምኑ ክ፡ለዩመ፡እግዚ ሔሩ
ር ኄጉ ሠ፡ነግ ለሥ ት ፡ዘኢ ትውጽ ያ። ይዩ ሪሰ ፡አ ቢጥ ጸሩ፡ኢ ልላ። እኅዲት፡
ከርመሃል።እሪ፡እግዚ አብሔር፡ይ መ ለሠገኝ ፡ይህን፡ ኑኝ። የ ወ ታ ጸር፡ደ
መ ወዝ፡ መ ሰጫ ዉ ፡ጊ ዜ ው ፡ዊ ር ቷል ፡ ብ ዙ ፡በ ቀ ጸ ም ፡ ሐ ኪ ብ ህ ፡ነበር፡
እ ሁ ኝ ም ፡ የ ብ ር ፡ነ ገ ር ፡ች ግ ሮ ኖ ሉ ን ፡ ብ ር ፡ሣ ለ ሙ ፡ እ ኄ ይ መ ጣ ሉ ኝ ፡ይ
ሁ ኝ ፡ ለ ሙ ሴ ፡ሽ ፍ ኝ ም ፡ ሉ ሊ በ ኍ ለ ሁ ፡ የ ከ ል ክ ም ፡ ን ገ ር ፡ ሽ ኢ ለ ው ኄ
ም ፡ እ ኄ ጨ ቱ ኄ ም ፡ መ ብ ጺ ቅ ፡ ኌ የ መ ች ፡ እ በ ላ ኽ ቋ ች ፡ የ ሚ ቱ ክ ፡ ሽ
ክ ለ ፡ ች ጥ ቂ ፡ ዘ ረ ፡ ከ ዪ ከ ፡ እ በ ሰ ፡ ሐ ሪ ር ጊ ፡ ለ መ ነ ጋ ገ ር ፡ አ ል ሰ ጣ ፡ ብ ላ
ሌ ፡ በ ሮ ኄ ቅ ኑ ፡ የ ም ሄ ን ጋ ግ ረ ው ። እ ሁ ኝ ም ፡ የ ዚ ህ ኄ ፡ የ ከ ል ኩ ኄ ፡
ሽ ክ ለ ፡ ኑ ገ ር ፡ እ ኄ ቱ ፡ በ ው ል ፡ እ ኄ ጁ ች ፡ ሰ ብ በ ቱ ፡ ይ ሁ ኄ ፡ በ መ ሰ ከ ረ ም ፡
በ ድ ቀ ን ፡ በ ፲ ፰ ፻ ፺ ፬ ዓ መ ተ ፡ ኄ ሠ ሐ ረ ቹ ፡ አ ዲ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ ማ ፡ ተ ጸ
ፈ ።

299. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 5 October "1900"

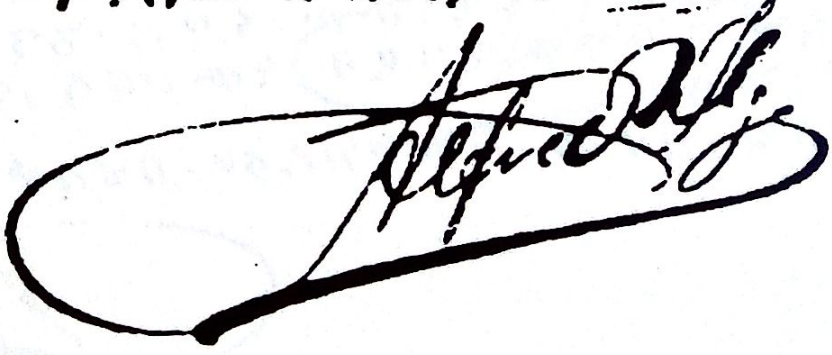
300. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 5 October "1900"



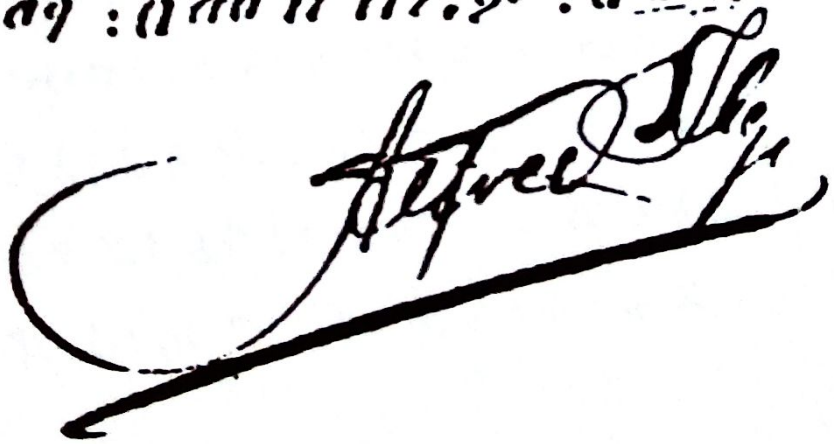
301. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Zurich 5 October "1900"



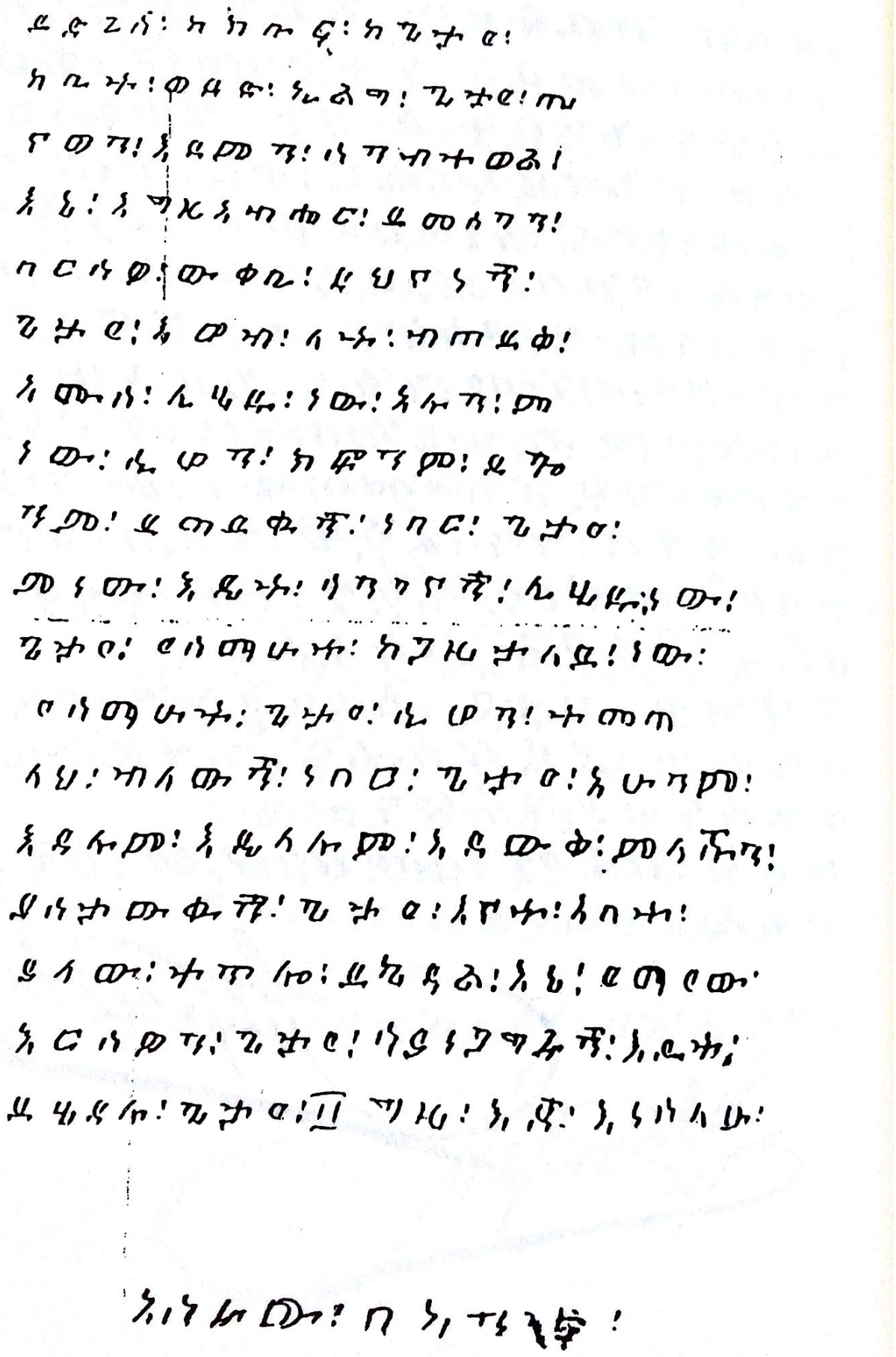
302. Alfred Ilg to Gezāw[?]
Zurich 5 October "1900"



303. Alfred Ilg to Yebsā
Zurich 5 October "1900"



304. Asfāw Bāntē to Alfred Ilg
"Neuchâtel 7 October 1900"



305. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 29 October 1900

ሞሓ፡ አንበሳ፡ ዘአሞነግዴ፡ ሄሁዲ፡ ዴግጣዊ ፡ ምኒልክ፡ ሠዩመ፡ እግዚአብሔር፡ ንጉሠ፡ ነግሥት ፡ዘኢትዮ ጵ ያ ፡፡ ሄ ሮረ ሲ፡ ክቢዎ ዴ ዱ ፡ ኤ ሕግ፡ እንዲት፡ ሰንብተሃል፡ እ ኔ፡ እግዚ አብሔር ፡ ዲ መሠገን፡ ዲ ሓ ና፡ነ ኝ። አሽ ከሮ ኽ ህ ፡ ቢ መ ጡ ልህ ፡ አንተን ፡ ያ ግ ኑ ሁ ህ፡ መ ሶ ኤ ኝ ፡ እ ጅ ግ ፡ ሄ ሲ፡ ብ ኤ ኛ ል። ዲ ግ ሞ ም፡ ጉ ዲ የ ን ፡ ሁ ኤ ፡ አ ኦ መ ዲ ፌ፡ አ ንተ ፡ ዊ ኤ ፡ ተ መ ጣ ህ፡ ብ ዬ ፡ ነ ው። እ ግ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ በ ዓ ይ ነ ፡ ሠ ን ፡ ለ መ ግ ና ኑ ፡ ያ ብ ቃ ን። በ ጥ ቂ ሞ ት ፡በ፲ ፱ ቀ ን ፡ በ ሐ ዲ ሲ፡ እ በ ባ ፡ ከ ተ መ ፡ በ፲ ፰ ፱ ፯ ቮ ዲ ት ፡ ሞ ሐ ረ ት ፡ ተ ጓ ፌ ፡

306. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 2 November 1900

ደጅ ፤ አክ ቦ ር ፡ ወ ዲ ኛ ፡ ከ ቢ ሉ ወ ደ ዮ ። ደ ሐ ግ ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ና ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ለ ር ዘ ግ ደ ሁ ን ። ።

የ ተ ሳ ለ ፡ ከ ራ ስ ፡ መ ለ ጌ ን ፡ የ ሐ ረ ር ና ፡ ያ ሙ ራ ጀ ዋ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ገ ሻ ። ። ሌ ላ ውም ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ቃ ፡ የ መ ጣ ፡ ጊ ዜ ፡ ም ላ ሹ ን ፡ ቁ ለ ጡ ፡ ሐ ኪ ፍ ዎ ፡ ነ ዐ ር ፡ በ ፈ ላ ም ፡ መ ን ገ ድ ፡ ለ መ ን ገ ድ ፡ ሆ ን ኩ ና ፡ ነ ው ፡ ቁ ሎ ፡ ያ ሳ ለ ሁ ብ ዎ ። ኔ ሁ ን ም ፡ የ ሳ ኑ ት ፡ ደ ብ ዳ ቤ ፡ ደ ር ሶ ል ኛ ል ፡ ስ መጡ ፡ ሁ ሉ ን ም ፡ እ ዘ ሁ ፡ እ ን ጪ ወ ታ ሉ ን ። ። ጅ ቡ ቲ ም ፡ ሲ ገ ቡ ፡ እ ን ዲ ያ ስ ታ ው ቁ ኝ ፡ ደ ሁ ን ። ። ሐ መ ቢ ቲ ኗ ም ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ ደ ግ ግ ሩ ልኝ ። ። እ ላ ዚ እ ላ ለ ሌ ር ፡ ብ ዙ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ና ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ደ ስ ፕ ዋ ፡ የ ፃ ሞ ፡ ዓ ደ የ ፡ ላ ደ ግ ፡ ለ መ ተ ያ የ ት ፡ ያ ብ ቃ ን ። ። ተ ጻ ፈ ፡ ፕ ሮ ም ቱ ፡ ፳ ር ቁ ግ ፡ ሐ ረ ር ፡ አ ተ ጣ ። ። ፲፰ የ ን ር ዓ መ ተ ፡ ም ሕ ረ ት ። ።

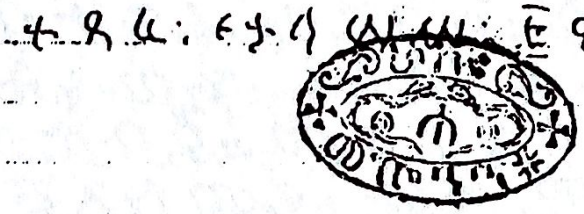
307. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis ʾAlam Camp 1 December 1900

ሜዳ እገሠሳ ዝእመነግጹ ደሀ ጸግማዊ ምኒልክ ሠዪመ እ
ግዚ አብሔር ዓፄ ሠንግሥት ዘኢትዮጵያ ደጅረስ ከቢቱጸ
ጹ ኢልግ እግጹ ሰግብተሃል እኒ እግዚ አብሔር ይመሥ
ገግ ጸላኖነኝ በመስከረም በ፫ ቱቱግ የተጻፈ ደብደቢ
ህ ጸረሱልኝ ነገር ግግ ምሳሹግ እጽፍልሃለሁ ብዬ ሣ
ለሁ አሽከሮችህ በየረር በኩልአግተግ ለመቀበልወ
ሃ ጅቡቲ ሲመርጹ ያየሰውቢቱጸጹ ኢልግ በየረር በ
ኩልግሥግሰ ወሄጃግሆ ይወጣብሎ ለነራስ መከላግግ
አ ውርቱ ሂህነግ ወረኸለር ጌ በሠልክ ሰማሁ እኒማ
እግጂህ የሚያስግሰግስ ምግ ነገር አግችቱት ይሆግ
ዛዙ አ ጥብቂ ጸግግጪ ነበር አሁግግግ እነመጡለ ሳጋር
ጹ ከጅቡቲ ከተነሱ በኋላ አግቱማ ጅቡቲ ደረስክ
ማለቱ ብሰ ማ ይህነግ ጸብጸቤ ጓፍኩልህ ለሚ ስጉህ
ግ ሰላሳመታ አሁር ስልኝ እግዚ አብሔር በጸላናችአማጥ
ቱህ በዓይነ ሠጋ ለመተያየቱ ያብቃግ ፈጸር ፬፱ቀኝ
አዲስ ዓለም ሰፈር ፲፰፻፺፯ ዓመት ምስረኑ ሁሃረ

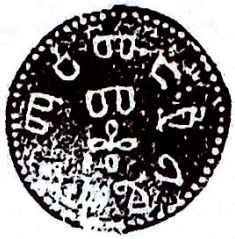
308. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Dawānlē 11 December "1900"

ፈበሉ ፡ በረሥሐ ኳ ፡ ደመለከቱሐኝ ፡ ጣዕሙዉ ።
ይግጦ ፡ አንተ ፡ ታላ ኳ ፡ ፎራጎሪቂ ፡ መሩሰ ፡
ሂግ ፡ ሌራ ፡ ከመሩሰ ፡ ካረጵ ፡ ጋራ ፡ ወ ፡ ።
ኣርሰዎና ፡ ወ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ሲወጣ ፡ ኑበ ። ይህ ፡
ለሠ ፡ ኣ ፡ ኳ በ ር ፡ ስለሆነ ፡ ዚግ ባበ ፡ ሐበርቱ ፡
መጸሀፍና ፡ ጋ ዜታ ፡ ጸሐፌ ፡ ስለሆነ ፡ ኣባትዎ ፡
በጣያዐ ፡ በሂሳና ፡ ለ ፡ ሰዉ ፡ ሠመሉከቱና ፡ በወሬ
ካያዐ ፡ ለመሣ በሉና ፡ ለመ ፡ ፡ ጵ ፡ ከ ፡ ሰዉ ፡
በየ ፡ አካረ ፡ ደስፈሣዊ ፡ አ ፡ ፡ ራጋ ፡ ። ።
ሥኔ ፡ ፋ ፎራጎ ሰዉ ፡ ምጭ ጣ ሪሠ ፡ ልከወ ፡ ታሉ ፡
ይመለስ ለ ፡ ሉ ፡ ሰጡ ፡ ታላ ኳ ፡ ኑ ፡ ፡ ይግጦ ፡
ከ ታላ ከ ፡ ፡ ሠ ፡ ፡ ኣበ ር ፡ ወደ ፡ ፡ ኑ ። ። ወረ ፡
ኳ ኪጎ ፡ ሲላ ፡ በወ ፡ ሰ ፡ ላጋ ር ፡ ፡ ፎ ጎ ፡ ፡ ወደ ፡
ጵ ሠ ፡ ፡ ሊ ፡ ፡ ፡ ኑ ፡ ፡ ሊ ለሉ ፡ ኣ ፡ ፡ ኑ ፡ ፡ ወይ ፡
ኣ ወ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ይ ፡ ፡ ኣ ለ ወ ፡ ፡ ፡ ። ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡
ወ ሉ ኳ ም ፡ ፡ ረ ጋ ፡ ፡ ፡ ይ ፡ ኑ ፡ ይመ ለ ስ ፡ ሉ ፡
ኢ ጎ ፡ በ ፡ ሳ ና ፡ ገ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ በ ኗ ሳ ፡
ኣ ስ ፡ ፡ ፡ ይ ፡ ፡ ኑ ፡ ፡ ኣ ወ ጣ ለ ሠ ፡ ኣ ለ ፡ ። ። ኣ ር ስ ዎ ፡
ገ ፡
ፈ ፡
ኳ ፡
ይ መ ስ ለ ኛ ል ። ኑ ኣ ር ፡ ገ ፡ ኣ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ደ ው ፡ ኩ ለ ። ።
ደ መ ለ ኩ ፡ በ ዘ ሁ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡
ከ መ ይ ኩ ዎ ፡ ለ መ ጎ ና ኛ ች ፡ ፈ ቃ ድ ዎ ፡ ኑ በ ር ።
ወ ፡
ኣ ሽ ከ ር ቹ ፡ ሰ ኑ ሠ ፡ ሂ ግ መ ፡ ኣ ሐ ከ በ ዋ ለ ሁ ።
ኣ ግ ዚ ኣ ጋ ዘ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡ ፡
ወ ዲ ፍ ዎ ፡
ደ ዋ ኛ ሉ ፡ በ ሉ ሀ ሰ ፡
በ ፪ ሳ ኛ ፡ ሉ ጽ ፈ ። ።

309. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 14 December "1900"



310. Māᶜemmur Ǧaldēssā to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 20 December "1900"



311. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Aro Hadagālā 23 December "1900"

የሙለካ ፡ ከርቢችዱድ ፡ ኢሐግ ፣ ይዲ፡ረሲ ፡
ካ ክበ·ር ፣ ጌ፡ታዲ፡ ፣ ከራሲ ፣ ጠ ኩ ዛ ፣ ወ ይሩ ኔ ፡
ፋ ለ ም ፡ ጨ ና ፡ ይ ሲ ና ል ኝ ፣ ሊ ዲ ፡ ፣ ኩ ፲ ፡ ፣ ሄ ኔ ሣ ለ ሥ ፣
ሠ ኔ ና ፡ ም ሰ ሙ ፡ በ ሄ ግ ዘ ሃ ኦ ብ ሐ ር ፡ ቸ ረ ኔ ት ፡
ቦ ር ሰ ም ፡ ው·ሃ ቤ ፡ ይ ሩ ና ፡ ኔ ኝ ።
በ ሙ ሀ ሲ ሲ ፡ ብ ፲ ሣ ጊ ፡ የ ሙ ዳ ፌ ፡ ደ ኦ ዲ ቤ ዎ ፡
ደ ረ ሲ ሉ ኝ ፣ ለ ክ በ·ር ፡ ሰ ለ ም ታ ዎ ፡ ሄ ግ ዘ
ሃ ኦ ብ ሐ ር ፡ ይ ሲ ኖ ሉ ኝ ። ኔ ግ ር ፡ ግ ዲ ፡ በ ር ሰ ዎ ፡
ዲ ኦ ዲ ዲ ቤ ፣ ጥ ቂ ም ፡ ም ቂ ም ፡ ሌ ሳ ፡ ግ·ዲ ይ ፣
ሐ ለ ፡ ብ ዮ ቂ ኛ ሙ ፣ ኩ ፲ ፡ ግ ፡ ሐ ዘ ዘ ቁ ኝ ።
የ ጡ ሌ ፡ ው ል ሽ ለ ግ ር ፡ ም ሕ ፣ ለ ይ ለ ጠ ለ ኽ
ሙ ኝ ፡ ይ ሰ·ኔ ፣ ኔ ግ ር ፡ ግ ኔ ፡ በ ይ ሆ ኔ ፡ የ
ሽ ኔ ሆ ይ ና ፡ የ ሄ ሙ ጌ ፡ ዲ ሳ ኔ ኔ ሙ ፡ ይ ሉ ኩ
ኦ ቸ ሉ ፡ ቤ ዎ ፡ ሙ ለ ፌ ፡ ኻ ዲ ረ ጌ ፡ ኔ በ ር ።
ጠ ኔ ወ· ፡ ኻ ና ኔ ሙ ፣ ፏ ራ· ፡ ሸ በ ሙ ፣ ሲ ደ ወ ጣ ፡
ለ ዘ ለ ለ ም ፡ ሄ ኔ ዲ ፡ ሄ ኔ ግ ዲ ፡ ደ ዲ ረ ጭ ቸ ፡።

ፋጥር ፣ ዛጊ ፣ ኣውሩ ፍ ፡ መጊ ፡ ኣዲ ኸለመቀለሁ ፡
ኣለምሸ ፡ ባይሆን ፣ ኣይሩሹ ።
ምስሉ ፡ የ ኣበ ር ፡ ለ ለምሸ ፡ ኑ ኸረ ሰ ዋ
ለ ኞ ። ኸ ልኺ ኞ ፣ ሑ ለ ይ ኞ ፡ ኣ ሩ ፣ ጋራ ፣
በ ር ሃ ፡ ለ በ ር ሃ ፡ ኑ ን ኸ ፊ ሑ ኑ ሑ ለ ኞ ።
የ ፎ ቅ ር ፡ ም ል ኸ ፍ ፡ ይ ሆ ሩ ል ኛ ል ፡ ቢ ዙ ፡
ለ ሹ ፣ ዮ ሬ ፎ ፡ ኣ ን ድ ፡ ሑ ኒ ፕ ፣ መ ጊ ጣ ፎ ፣
ለ ር ለ ም ፡ ቢ ዙ ፡ ኣ ለ ረ ኸ ሁ ሀ ሁ ። የ መ ሩ ሬ ፡
ፕ ፎ ኔ ኖ ፡ የ ሩ ፡ ወ ለ ለ ኑ ፡ ይ ሆ ሩ ል ን ።
የ ረ ር ፡ ለ ይ ፣ ኣ ን ዲ ጊ ለ በ ፍ ፣ ሣ ር ለ ም ን ፡
ሣ ሪ ኖ መ ኖ ለ ጊ ፣ ኣ ይ ራ ሩ ጊ ፡ ጊ ኑ ዩ ።
ሣ ጣ ዘ ረ ኣ ዝ ለ ሰ ር ፣ በ ኔ ኖ ፡ ለ ለ ም ፡
ይ ለ ኖ ዎ ።
ኣ ሮ ፡ ኃ ዲ ጋ ለ ፡ በ ሞ ይ ለ ለ ፡ በ ፲ ፱ ሦ ጊ ፡
ሞ ኖ ፌ ።

312. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 26 December 1900

ደ ፍ ረ ስ ፡ ከ ክ ቡ ር ፡ ወ ደ ኧ ፡ ከ ቢ ታ ወ ደ ፍ ፡ ደ ፊ ግ ።

ብ ዙ ፡ ሰ ላ ም ና ፡ ጤ ና ፡ ለ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ደ ሁ ን ፡ የ ተ ለ ከ ፡ ከ ራ ስ ፡ መ ኰ ንን ፡ ቂ ሐ ረ ር ና ፡ ያ ው ራ ጂ ዋ ፡ ሁ ሉ ፡ ገ ሽ ፡ ።

እ ር ስ ዎ ፡ ስ ላ ሉ ኅ ች ፡ ወ ዲ ህ ፡ የ ኛ ሆ ይ ፡ ሃ ፊ ፡ መ ጥ ኍ ኅ ች ፡ ደ ኽ ው ፡ ወ ዲ አ ዲ ስ ፡ አ በ ባ ፡ መ ነ ሣ ቴ ፡ ነ ው ። ፡ ፊ ሁ ሉ ም ፡ ነ ገ ር ፡ እ ዚ ያ ው ፡ እ ግ ገ ና ኮ ለ ን ። ሉ ጪ ስ ጦ ም ም ፡ ሬ አ ሽ ለ ር ፡ ሰ ላ ም ታ ፡ ደ ን ገ ር ሉ ኛ ። ፡ እ ጣ ዚ አ ብ ሔ ር ፡ በ ፀ ደ ወ ት ፡ ለ መ ገ ና ኖ ት ፡ ያ ብ ታ ን ፡ ተ ሃ ሪ ፡ ታ ሳ ሣ ሠ ፡ ፲ ፭ ሺ ን ፡ ለ ሐ ረ ር ፡ ስ ሙ ። ፲ ፫ ሺ ን ና ሪ መ ት ።

001. Neguś Takla Haymanot to Alfred Ilg
Dabra Māreqos 3 March 1884

Sent by Neguś Takla Haymanot[17], follower of the true Faith,[18] son of St. Mark the Evangelist, Elect of Yoḥannes[19], King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The word you sent me is very true. It is true We ran into conflict with Neguś Menilek for nothing [and] it is true that We ignored you. Bāššā Makwannen had actually spoken to me about you favourably at that time. He told me that you had given him a mule, but not that you lent it to him, however. And now, he was gone for a long time after a dispute; but he is now reconciled and is back. If you mean it was loaned, I shall tell him to return it; why should your property remain here otherwise? Actually, it would have been proper for you to be here if possible. And now, let our friendship be strengthened and let it not wane. I never forget that you wrote down your name and gave it to me at the time you came with ...[20] Cecchi from the Gāllā country. And now forget me not, and I will not forget you, believing what is said in the Book: "The distance of the land hampers not our friendship". I have sent with Yemar[21] all that which has been in excess to this.

Given in the city of Dabra Māreqos at the ninth hour on Tuesday the 26th of Yakkātit 1876 of the Year of Grace [= 3 p.m. of 3 March 1884].

17 Ca. 1850-1901, a nobleman of Goǧǧām which he ruled for almost three decades. His original name was Adāl Tasammā. He married the sister of Emperor Takla Giyorgis II by whom he was appointed governor with the title of Rās. In January 1881, Emperor Yoḥannes IV crowned him King of Goǧǧām and Kafā under the name of Takla Haymanot. After the death of Yoḥannes, he submitted to Menilek II and participated in the conquest of Kafā. He also expanded his home region to the west. He died of illness in January 1901. Cf. ZGSYoh p. 270 f.; Bairu Tafla, "Two of the Last Provincial Kings of Ethiopia: Negus Täklä Haymanot Abba tanna of Goǧǧam 1850-1901 and his sons, and Negus Wäldä Giyorgis Abboyyé Abba Saggud, c. 1859-1918" in: JES 11/1 (1973) pp. 29-55.

18 Lit. "the Orthodox." Cf. KWKMQ pp. 840 f. Apparently, this was the standard formula of his letter-writing. Three months earlier, he had used the same formulation when writing to Umberto. Cf. Ignazio Guidi, Documenti Amariña = Rendiconti della R. Accademia dei Lincei. Classe di Scienze morali, storiche e filologiche VII/1 Fasc. 8 (1891) p. 287. See also doc. 176 below.

19 = Emperor Yoḥannes IV, 1872-89. He was killed when fighting the Mahdists of the Sudan at Matammā. For his life history, see Zewde Gebre-Sellassie, Yohannes IV. of Ethiopia: A Political Biography (Oxford, 1975); Bairu Tafla, A Chronicle of Emperor Yoḥannes IV (1872-89) = ÄthFor 1 (1977).

20 A word is illegible at this point. It is unlikely that it was the Christian name of the mentioned Italian traveller.

21 Probably Fitāwrāri Yemar, the officer sent as an envoy of Neguś Takla Haymanot to Neguś Menilek shortly before the Battle of Embābo in June 1882. Cf PÑMen p. 68.

[Seal]:
Seal of Neguś Takla Haymanot
Elect of Yoḥannes, King of Zion,
King of Kings of Ethiopia.[22]

002. Promissory Note of Estifānos
Enṭoṭṭo 28 January 1885

I, Estifānos,[23] affirm with this document that I have received the sum of 235 Thalers and an *Alād*[24] from Monsieur Pierre[25] Labattu[26] on 15 Ṭer 1883[27]. I have received these Thalers in [the form of] trade articles. From this amount, I have paid back 103 Thalers in cash as well as with an animal. The 20 Thalers I paid on behalf of Ato Čarē[28] is also included in this sum. Now my outstanding debt amounts to 132 Thalers and an *Alād*. This I will pay off in the current year.

Written in the town of Enṭoṭṭo on 28 Ṭer [January] 1885[29] YG.[30]

22 This seal was dropped after his recoronation by Menilek II in 1894 in favour of a new one which read: "His enthroner [is] Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. This seal [belongs to] Neguś Takla Haymanot, King of Kafā." Cf. Mén p. 37.

23 There is no hint who this person was. His signature is illegible. Ilg entitled the document, "Stefanos". Both Ethiopians and foreigners (particularly Greeks) alike bore the name in this form. Most of the foreigners also drew up their written statements in Amharic, because they had eventually to go to Ethiopian courts in case of disagreements.

24 Half of a Menilek Taler.

25 Note that the French original (cf. note 31 below) bears only the initial.

26 A French businessman who lived in Ethiopia since the late 1870s. Cf. Gustavo Bianchi, Alla Terra dei Galla. Narrazione della Spedizione Bianchi in Africa nel 1879-80 (Milan 1884) pp. 207, 212, 231; Paul Soleillet, Voyages en Éthiopie (Janvier 1882 - Octobre 1884). Notes, Lettres & Documents divers (Rouen 1886) p. 81.

27 This date is obviously Gregorian. The translator has rendered "Janvier" by "Ṭer", but has retained the numbers unconverted. Cf. note 31 below.

28 It is not clear who this man was and how he was involved in the debts.

29 This date is again Gregorian, though the translator has used "Ṭer" and "ʾAmata Mehrat". Cf. Note 31 below. The second digit of the date of the month is hardly legible in the Amharic original.

30 This date is again obviously Gregorian.

Translated from the French[31] into Amharic by Alaqā Yosēf[32]. I, Gabre^{c}ēl,[33] have copied his text.

Pour copie conforme à l'orig^{al},
[Signature]: Gabriel W. Gobanā

.....
.....
...

003. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Ḥarargē 1 January "1888"

May it reach Neguś Menilek. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, O Your Majesty? I, thank God, am well.

After my arrival in Ḥarargē, I had sent a letter to Your Majesty. I hope it reached you safely. Now, I heard that Your Majesty will be going to Emperor Yoḥannes. May God accompany you. May God safeguard you, your country and your army, and make you come back safely.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 23rd of Tāḥśāś [= 1 January "1888"].
Monsieur Ilg, the Servant of the Neguś.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

31 The original French text is as follows: "Je soussigné reconnais avoir reçu de Monsieur P. Labattu, le 15 Janvier 1883 la somme de deux cent trente cinq Thalers en marchandises, sur laquelle j'ai déjà payé cent trois Thalers en espèces et en bestiaux, y compris vingt Thalers de la part d'Ato Sherry.
Reste dû à ce jour cent trente deux Thalers que je m'engage à payer dans le courant de l'année.
Fait à Enṭoṭṭo le 28 Janvier 1885
(signé ....)".

32 It is difficult to identify which of the two learned Ethiopians with the same name - Yosēf Neguśē and Yosēf Zagalan - this translator was. Both were fluent in French, both were referred to as "Alaqā" because of their learning, and both lived at Enṭoṭṭo in this period.

33 This person cannot easily be identified. In so far as he signed his name in Latin script, he had presumably received western education. He might as well be the same man who, being educated in Trieste, served German and Austrian businessmen in Ethiopia at the beginning of the twentieth century, though von Kulmer estimated his age under 20. Cf. Friedrich von Kulmer, Im Reiche Kaiser Meneliks (Leipzig 1910) pp. 84 f.

004. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 21 February "1888"

May it reach Neguś Menilek, King of Šawā and of Kafā and of Ḥarar and of all the regions of the country of the Gāllā.
I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord?

I, thank God, have arrived in my home country safely. On the way, we suffered a great deal. The Adāl ...[34] our servants. When we arrived in Zeila, the English confiscated all our rifles. When I wrote to the English government, they gave me a reply via Aden saying that they will return them to me when I come back. When I arrived in the town of Aden, I saw a high English official. He asked me what the intention of Šawā was. He asked, "Do the officials of Neguś Menilek intend to occupy Ḥarar permanently?" "It is his country as far as the sea let alone Ḥarar; there is nothing that can hinder the Neguś," said I. "Be it the Isā, the Somālē, the Gādābursi, the Adāl - all were under Ethiopian rule in the olden days - and, if God grants power and long life to the Neguś, they will probably be under his rule," I said. "It is all right; we shall deliberate about it," he told me. "You are going to your home country to bring things for the Neguś. Why?[35] Watch out, we will let no machine through; you will run into difficulty later," he warned me. When I said, "How can a machine tool - a money-minting machine - be forbidden?" he told me, "We have heard what you are intending [to do]; first the Italian war[36] should come to an end, and we shall then consider the matter." After I arrived in my home country, I travelled to the great French city of Paris. However, the matter was not successful. The former president, Grāwi,[37] has lost his office and a new president, Monsieur Carnot,[38] is now ruling. Even Monsieur Savouré[39] is in great trouble, let alone we. Rifles and cartridges are strictly forbidden these days. They are determined not to let them through under any condition. However, I will send whatever is

34 Some words in this sentence are illegible, but the identifiable words indicate that his caravan was troubled by the Adāl and some of his servants were killed.

35 This sentence is badly constructed and poorly written so that it is difficult to understand its meaning.

36 This may be a reference to Crispi's serious economic conflict of 1887-88 with France which was tantamount to war.

37 = François Paul Jules Grévy, 1807-91. He became president in 1879 and held power until 1887 when he was embarrassed by a scandal of his son-in-law.

38 = Marie François Sadi Carnot, 1837-94. He replaced Grévy in the presidency in 1887 and held power until he was fatally stabbed by an Italian fanatic in 1894.

39 = Armand Savouré, a French trader with trading establishments in Djibouti and Addis Ababā since around 1884. At one time he acted as the agent of the Compagnie Franco-Africaine. His business included export-import as well as construction of bridges and houses. He was enthusiastic about the railway concession and was probably instrumental in urging the French to facilitate for Ilg the building of the railway in Djibouti. His correspondence indicates that he had hoped to be a joint concessionaire. His business declined around 1904 and he moved to an agricultural concession. Cf. Angoulvant, G. and Sylvain Vignéras, Djibouti, Mer Rouge, Abyssinie (Paris 1902) p. 379 note 1; Count Gleichen, With the Mission to Menelik 1897 (London 1898) pp. 245 f; H. Le Roux, Ménélik et nous (Paris 1902) p. 69.

possible. Monsieur Zimmermann will go up [to you] earlier and, hence, I beg you, Your Majesty, to listen to him as to my substitute. We all serve according to our ability. I beg you [to listen to] Monsieur Zimmermann, for we have discovered some important things. Everything will succeed by the will of God and the diligence of Your Majesty. The Italian war will probably be concluded soon. A great war may break out in Europe. All the governments are preparing themselves extensively. I saw Monsieur Chefneux. He is thinking of extracting the Lake Asal salt. However, the French government have told him to seek first the permission of Negus Menilek. He will probably come up [to Šawā]. Today Ethiopia's prestige has become great. May God strengthen you. I entrust to your care all my property, my lord. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 14th day of Yakkātit [= 21 February "1888"]. The servant of the Negus,
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.
Monsieur Ilg

005. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Zurich 21 February "1888"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Makwannen. I pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How are you[40] indeed? I, thank God, am well under the protection of your guardian angel.

I have heard that you might relinquish Ḥarar in favour of another official. No, no, it won't do, my lord. I have spoken with the French consul; he has shown me your letter. He liked it very much. The English officials like you very much. All like and fear you very much. If you leave, Ḥarar will likely fall into the hands of the English or the French. When they asked me whether "they have occupied Ḥarar permanently[41]" I said, "yes". I said: "They will rule as in former times if God will, for it was their own country as far as the sea let alone Ḥarar." When they asked me, "Have the Yesā ['Isā] really submitted to them willingly?" I said, "yes". I said, "The Ēğā, the chief of the Yesā, used formerly to listen to the word of the Negus let alone today when he [the Negus] has entered Ḥarar." "Let it be so. We shall not prevent [him] as long as he is friendly with us" [they said]. And now, please my lord, do your best and do not leave whatever happens. Monsieur Zimmermann will be coming. Please my lord, make him a very, very close friend; I beseech you for it. I will probably be coming soon. May God let us meet one another in safety, my lord.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 14th day of Yakkātit [= 21 February "1888"]. I pay

40 The original is specifically in the respect form.
41 "Lesarq" is probably a mistake for "lasark".

my obeisance to Wayzaro Ēši Emmabēt[42].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.
Monsieur Ilg.

006. Gobanā Dāčči to Alfred Zimmermann
Entoṭṭo 22 February 1888

Sent by Rās Gobanā[43]. May it reach Monsieur Zimmermann. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I have heard that you reached the sea[44] safely, though no letter came to me from you. Why, is it not so that no letter exchange means being distant from each other? Why can't I have a letter from you?[45] Here your children and house are all right.

Written at Entoṭṭo on the 15th day of Yakkātit 1880 of the Year of Grace, the year of the Evangelist John [= 22 February 1888].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Rās Gobanā.[46]

007. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 8 March "1888"

May it reach Neguś Menilek, King of Šawā and of Kafā and of all the regions of the country of the Gāllā.[47] I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, O King? I am well by the will of God and under

42 = Yašimmabēt or Yaši Emmabēt, Wife of Rās Makwannen and mother to his youngest issue - Tafari, later Emperor Ḫayla Śellāsē I. Cf. Ḫayla Giyorgis Ballaṭa, Yale'ul rās Makwannen Tārik. Transl. Liqa kāhnāt Kenfa Gabre'ēl Altāyya. 2nd Impression (Addis Ababā Maskaram 1989 YG = September 1996) pp. 27 f. and 41-48.

43 = Rās Gobanā Dāčči (ca. 1820-89), an Oromo of Šawā and one of the leading officials of Neguś Menilek in the years 1865-89. He conquered most of western Šawā and the Gibē regions including Wallaggā. Cf. Bairu Tafla, "Three Portraits: Ato Atsmä Giyorgis, Ras Gobäna Datchi and Tsahafé Te'ezāz Gäbrä Sellasé" in: JES 5.3 (1967) pp. 133-150.

44 This term can as well be translated as "overseas". It is not clear whether reaching the coast or Aden or Europe is meant. We know from other letters that Zimmermann stayed at Zeila from December 1887 to March 1888 and, hence, "the sea" is preferred to "overseas".

45 Very similar letters have been addressed to Alfred Ilg and a certain Stifānos on the same day. The letter addressed to the last one included a request that he should recruit a craftsman for the Rās, but it is not clear what skill and from which race was required.

46 Cf. Mén fig. 33. Next to the seal in the original, the name 'Zimerman'[sic.] is noted in Latin script.

47 Note that "Ḥarar" is excluded from this sentence. Cf. doc. No. 004 supra.

the protection of your guardian angel.

I heard that Dağğāzmāč Mašašā[48] is lost to you. I wept bitterly. I am mourning deeply. As to you, O Neguś, may God give you consolation. Here the Neguś of Germany[49], Wilhelm, died[50]. All the countries of the *Farang*[51] are sorrowing. His son[52], too, is seriously ill. God knows if he can survive. And now, Monsieur Zimmermann is about to go to His Majesty[53]. He is concerned with many great matters, on behalf of His Majesty, if God will. He has found an excellent orb to bring to Your Majesty.[54] O Neguś, I beg you to help. Let nobody else know about it. Whatever happens, let[55] it be that he returns immediately carrying the word of His Majesty. If it fails to succeed today, it will never come about again. Take it to heart.[56] Our strength and life are for Your Majesty.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 30th day of Yakkātit [= 8 March "1888"].

The servant of the Neguś.

Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

Monsieur Ilg.

008. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Zurich 18 March "1888"

May it reach Neguś Menilek, King of Šawā and of Kafā and of all the regions of the country of the Gāllā.[57] How have you indeed been, O King? I am well by the will of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

That grand machine is already ordered. It is going to be constructed rapidly. Monsieur Zimmermann conceived - with much trouble and effort - a very good idea, and everything

48 A son of Ato Sayfu Śāḥla Śellāsē and, hence, first cousin of Neguś Menilek. He died of smallpox. Mén p. 167. Ilg wrote a similar letter of condolence to Ṭāytu, adding that he was worried about her health, as he had heard that smallpox spread in Šawā. He promised to bring with him much medicine against the epidemic when he returned to Ethiopia.

49 The name "Namsā" referred in the nineteenth century to both Germany and Austria, but here it is evident that Germany is meant.

50 On 9 March 1888 in Berlin.

51 Europeans or the white people.

52 Friedrich who succeeded to the throne at the age of 56. He was sick and frail at the time of his accession and died three months later.

53 Lit. "to the Neguś". The same translation applies to all the subsequent applications of the term without further footnotes.

54 This sentence is rather clumsy in the original and it is difficult to establish whether the person had obtained the thing or merely wished to impart the information that it was available.

55 The Amharic phrase "endi ... yehun" is here and after translated by the phrase, "let it be" for want of a better equivalent. The Amharic phrase denotes a polite request in the sense of please, be so kind as, see to it that, grant or arrange for.

56 Lit. "Please, please."

57 Cf. note 47 supra.

will [happen] in your own country, with the endeavour of Your Majesty. Our lord, help us generously. We are too few[58]; our capability is limited. Monsieur Zimmermann will relate everything to you. I beg you to listen to him very well, O Neguś. But our secret should in no way be divulged to anyone else. I heard that Hakim [Physician] Ragazzi[59] was going to bring His Majesty 1,000 Remington [rifles] and 150,000 cartridges. I am very pleased. O King, rejoice! I beg you to care for my house.[60]
Written in the city of Zurich on the 10th day of Maggābit [= 18 March "1888"].
The servant of the Neguś.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.
Monsieur Ilg.

009. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 18 March "1888"

May it reach Wayzaro Ṭāytu. I pay obeisance wishing that the Saviour of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lady? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

I heard that Dağğāzmāč Mašašā has been lost to you. I grieved exceedingly. May God console you, my lady. I heard that smallpox has broken out in Šawā. I am very sorry. Upon my return, I will bring with me plenty of medicine against smallpox. I have planned a lot of things for my lady; I shall please you. Monsieur Zimmermann will come with a great deal of serious matters and, hence, I beg you, my lady, to help him.

Written in the city of Ẓurich on the 10th day of Maggābit [= 18 March "1888"].
The servant of my lady.
Alfred Ilg Ing.
Monsieur Ilg.

58 Lit. "alone".
59 = Dr. Vincenzo Ragazzi (1856-1929), an Italian physician and traveller who resided at Leṭ Mārafiyā as representative of the Società Geografica Italiana in the years of 1884-89. He collected scientific data of all kinds on behalf of the Society and other institutions. He also represented his government at Menilek's court. ZGSYoh PuDiz p. 249 f.
60 The verb is omitted from this sentence, as often in colloquial Amharic.

010. Alfred Ilg to Muḥammad Abubakkar
Zurich 4 April "1888"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Muḥammad[61], the Naggādrās. My brother, how have you indeed been? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

I had intended to come back quickly. I could not make it. I went to the French government, but the matter I had pursued was unsuccessful. I have so far sent many things. Furthermore, I will bring with me a great deal more. What is your plan? What about Monsieur Savouré? Is he going? Is it you who are going to take him? What will become of us if you are gone, Sir? If I do not find you, I will leave all my things behind and go up to Šawā. What news is there from Šawā? Are Neguś Menilek and Wayzaro Ṭāytu well? Is the country all right? What kind [of person] is the highest official in Zeila? Are you in harmony [with him]? Please, Sir, send me everything in a letter. Give this [the enclosed] letter to my children, if they are still there.[62] May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 27th day of Maggābit [= 4 April "1888"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

011. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 8 June "1888"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg, the engineer. May it reach Daǧǧāzmāč Makwannen. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? How have they all - your court, the country, your governorate - been? I am well until this day, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

I am yearning for the Neguś, Her Grace, you [and] all my brothers. Your letter has reached me; I am very pleased. I was very delighted to hear of your safety and fortitude. The Italian army is withdrawn; only 6,000 soldiers have remained behind. They intend nonetheless to return after the rainy season. The reason for their current withdrawal is because they are afraid of the heat[63]. They have not yet been reconciled with Emperor Yoḥannes. Please, be careful.

61 = Naggādrās Muḥammad Abubakkar, a leading businessman who transported goods (including weapons destined for the government) with a caravan of camels from the coast, particularly Djibouti and Zeila. He was probably the same as the Naggādrās of the same name whom the Austrian traveller and researcher described in his diary in 1904 as head of traders in Djibouti. Cf. The diary of Friedrich Julius Bieber (Ms. in the collection of the Nationalbibliothek in Vienna), 19 May 1904.

62 The last phrase can also be translated as "if they still exist," if the writer was ironically implying that he heard nothing from them. But his own children were very young at this time and he was probably thinking of his servants who were waiting for him at the coast.

63 Lit. "the sun".

Italy is not a friend to the Amhara. And now, Italy has quarrelled further with the ruler[64] of Zanzibar. They are looking everywhere for a territory. The English and the French are not so evil today. The French talk about letting rifles through. They claim not to hamper [the import] henceforth. I have not yet verified whether it is true. I will start out today in a month. I will bring with me many things. I hope that we shall meet in safety.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Sanē [= 8 June "1888"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

012. Alfred Ilg to Muḥammad Abubakkar
Zurich 27 June "1888"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Muḥammad, the Naggādrās. How have you indeed been, my brother? I, thank God, am well.

I had sent [you] a letter on the 27th day of Maggābit [= 4 April]. I have received no reply. Why, Sir, have you forgotten me? I was told that Neguś Menilek was in Gondar. I have heard no other news. Has Monsieur Zimmermann travelled to Ḥarargē? Has he gone up to Šawā? I heard that Monsieur Brémond[65] has reached the coast. Is it true? How has he been? Is he all right? Please, Sir, write me all the news in a letter. Give my greetings to your brother, Ato Burhantā. I will come soon.

Written in Zurich on the 21st day of Sanē [= 27 June "1888"]. Give my regards to all my children.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

64 Lit. "Neguś".

65 A French trader who had allegedly represented in Šawā and the southern Red Sea region a firm in Marseilles since the late 1870s. He was rather unpopular in Šawā, as he was a scrounger. He died at Djibouti in 1896. Cf. Michel Perret, "Voyage sans retour: Henry Lucereau en Ethiopie" (1879-80) = Maria Caravaglios (Ed.), "L'Africa al tempi di Daniele Comboni". Atti del Congresso Internazionale di Studi Africani, Roma 19-21 novembre 1981 (Rome 1981) pp. 197 f.; Charles Michel, Vers Fachoda. A la Rencontre de la Mission Marchand à Travers l'Éthiopie (Paris "1900") pp. 24 f.

013. Alfred Ilg to Ayyala Yosēf
Zurich 30 June "1888"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Ayyala[66]. How have you indeed been, my brother? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. I am very pleased with the news. May God reward you on my behalf for everything. Why, my brother! I had assumed you were gone up to Šawā, as no reply came. I will bring [you] a rifle according to your request. I will look for a pistol. I will start out in a few days. I delayed until this day, as matters lagged. And now, I shall, by the will of God, start out today a month. All the newspapers (Gazette)[67] report that Negus Menilek deserted and that Rās Arāyā Śellāsē[68] died of poison. I was delighted to get your news. And now, when are you [pl.] leaving? Have camels been found? Who is the head of the caravan camp? Are you going to Ḥarargē? Please send me [news] about everything. Give my greetings to all the boys[69]. May God enable us to meet again in safety, my brother.

Written in Zurich on the 24th day of Sanē [= 30 June "1888"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

014. Ayyala Yosēf to Alfred Ilg
Tagori 24 July 1888

Sent by Ayyala. May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Ilg. My honourable friend, how have you indeed been? May the Redeemer of the World give you health. As for me, I, by the grace of God, am well.

Your letter written in Zurich on the 24th day of Sanē has reached me on the 12th day of

66 This person could not be identified, though the fact that Ilg addressed him with "Ato" (mainly applied then to distinguished men, except when used jocundly or coaxingly in a very familiar circle) may connote that he was a member of the nobility or at least that he enjoyed a respectable position probably in business. He may as well be the same as the Azzāž by the same name in the Imperial palace some years later.

67 This term was noted in the Amharic original by Ilg himself (cf. the facsimile), but it is not clear why he put it in the singular while the Amharic phrase "gazeta hullu" definitely indicates more than one newspaper.

68 = Rās Arāyā Śellāsē Yoḥannes (1870-88), the only known son of Emperor Yoḥannes IV. His mother, Ṭebaba Śellāsē, died while he was a baby. In 1883 he married Zawditu Menilek and was given the command of Wallo. He was transferred to Bagēmeder and Dambeyā in 1886. He died of smallpox in 1888. ZGSYoh pp. 272 f.; Bairu Tafla, A Chronicle of Emperor Yoḥannes IV (1872-89) = ÄthFor 1 (1977) pp. 91, 155, 185.

69 Lit. "Children". The reference is obviously to the young men accompanying the caravan of the addressee.

Ḥamlē.[70] At that time, it was a great joy for me. May God exalt you; may He please you greatly. As to the news you wrote concerning the death of Rās Arāyāśellāsē, it is true. However, Neguś Menilek is on good terms with Emperor Yoḥannes in spite of the rumour spread by the Italians that he deserted. Today, the Neguś is still at Enṭoṭṭo. Ato Muḥammad is waiting for you. He has said that he would not leave before Monsieur Ilg arrived. In Zeila, too, there are plenty of camels. It is also rumoured that you are coming soon and that you have got permission from the English to import rifles for yourself. Hence, my hope is strong for a rifle and a pistol. Monsieur Savouré, however, is unlikely to go up [to Šawā]; he is taking care of the port. He is waiting until the commander returns. We, too, have not yet found a way; if we go up, it will be this week. Else, we will sojourn here. Your servants - Walda Śellāsē and others - are staying well in Zeila and are waiting for you. Many young men of Abyssinia wait for you, let alone your own servants. Just you come here.

Written at Tagori on the 18th day of Ḥamlē 1880 of the Year of Grace [= 24 July 1888].

[Signature]: Yosehf ayelle.[71]

015. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 3 August "1888"

Sent by Dağğāzmāč Makwannen. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been, my brother? I, thank God, am well.

I have heard that you went to your home country. Now, let it be that you write me everything you hear overseas, in accordance with our longstanding friendship, my brother. Please do so, for our friendship is one that cannot tarnish. I shall not lose you from my mind. You too should not forget me, my brother. Send me also all the information you could gather from Aden. Send me the specific date of your return. May God return you back in safety and enable us to meet in [this] life.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 28th of Ḥamlē [= 3 August "1888"].

[Seal]: Dağğāzmāč Makwannen, Ḥarar.

70 It is not clear whether these dates are Gregorian or Ethiopian. As in several other documents referring to correspondence with Europe, the probability is that they are a mixture of both: in the first case, only the name of the month is translated while in the second case, an Ethiopian month and day are given which correspond to 18 July.

71 The signer has for some obscure reason written his second or father's name small. According to a note (cf. facsimile), Ilg answered the letter on 24 August presumably of the same year though a copy has apparently not been preserved.

016. Servants to Alfred Ilg
Zeila 6 August "1888"

May it reach our master, Monsieur Ilg. Our master, we pay obeisance for all the time since we parted wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? As for us, we, thank God, are well.

The heat is, however, about to exterminate us on top of the diseases. Habta Wald is seriously ill at the foot. You, too, have failed to send us a letter. We received [your news] not even once. Only the one written in Sanē[72] reached us. And now, deny us no letter. Please write us the time when you will be coming.

News from Abyssinia: Ato Antonelli[73] came via Ḥarargē. Rās Arāyā Śellāsē died allegedly of smallpox. That he died is in any case true. Neguś Menilek entered Šawā; he did not meet Emperor Yoḥannes. Though we have not heard that he deserted, the situation does not look good. All other things are all right. They say that our house[s] and the children in Šawā are all fine. They say that Yeglaṭu, Walda Māryām the Red, and Etābazzē, the daughter of Assebē, have deserted and left. They say that now there are [only] Dabalā and Walda Māryām the elder. As to the caravan, now the route has become safe. The goods of Monsieur Savouré have been impounded. His case may take long. The French have withheld [his goods] and have told him to wait. Šawā Annasaš has joined a brothel. That she quarrelled with someone we do not know. As for us, our clothes are worn out. We are penniless to buy [anything]. Come quickly for our sakes. There are seven of us. The eighth, Hellata, lives and waits [for you] using the money.[74] Say the boys.

Written in Zeila on the 1st day of Naḥasē.

017. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 23 August 1888

Deggezmac[sic] Makwennen[sic].
GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL DE HARRAR
MOCCONEN.

72 = 7.6.-6.7.1888.

73 = Count Pietro Antonelli (1859-1901), An Italian nobleman who travelled to Ethiopia as a young man and was subsequently attached to the Italian geographical exploration station in Šawā from 1879 onward. He eventually was involved in the negotiations between Menilek and the Italian government which culminated in the Treaty of Weċālē in 1889. Upon his return to Italy in the next year, he was appointed undersecretary in the foreign ministry and was subsequently appointed envoy to Argentina and Brazil respectively. Cf. PuDiz pp. 18 f.; ZGSYoh p. 272.

74 This sentence is rather enigmatic. It is not clear where Hellata was staying and whose money he was spending. Apparently, the name of the place has been forgotten.

Sent by Dağğāzmāč Makwannen.

May it reach Monsieur Ilg, the engineer. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I have received your letter. But there was none for me among those you sent to Appenzeller[75] and others. I shall immediately forward all the letters you may send to the Negus and Zimmermann and others as soon as they reach me. I will not delay [them] a day or a night. You, too, please send me news of Europe and about your health and specify the date when you may be coming. Please do so, my brother.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 18th day of Naḥasē 1880 of the Year of Grace [= 23 August 1888].

[Seal]: Dağğāzmāč Makwannen.

018. Alfred Ilg to Negus Menilek
Zurich 30 August "1888"

May it reach Negus Menilek, King of Šawā and of Kafā and of all the regions of the country of the Gāllā. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, O King? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

I am very happy to hear from Monsieur Zimmermann about your good health. It would be good if his matter could be concluded quickly. It will not be successful if you[76] dawdle too long. It is not something that can succeed if the French and the Italians at the coast[77] get wise to it. News and wind spread rapidly over a country. I beg you, my lord, to realize it quickly. So far I have experienced many problems, though everything arrived safely. I will be setting out for Šawā today in a fortnight. I am short of money for the caravan[78]. I beg you, my lord, to help me. It is dangerous if we stay too long at the coast[79]. Please send a letter of recommendation through [the hands of] Dağğāzmāč Makwannen to the English commander in Zeila [to treat] Monsieur Ilg favourably.

The Italians went up to Saganayti and were severely beaten. 400 soldiers died. And now,

75 = Heinrich (also Heiri) Appenzeller, a Swiss carpenter who accompanied Alfred Ilg to Ethiopia in 1878-79. He assisted Ilg in various projects during the initial period, but he eventually undertook his own contracts. He built several houses in Ankobar, Enṭoṭṭo and Addis Ababā. He also constructed a bridge over the Aqāqi on behalf of Emperor Menilek II in the late 1880s. His health declined and he left for his home country with Zimmermann at the end of 1893. Cf. Gustavo Bianchi, Alla Terra dei Galla. Narrazione della Spedizione Bianchi in Africa nel 1879-80 (Milan 1884) pp. 212, 231; KellIg pp. 14-16.

76 In the plural.

77 Literally, "the sea".

78 Literally, "to raise the luggage".

79 Literally, "the sea".

it is still unknown whether they will come back.[80] I suppose they will not give up. They are spreading the news that Negus Menilek had defected and that he would help them. Ato Antonelli has arrived in his country.

Monsieur Savouré is in Obock. The French official hampered him by refusing to let rifles through. Monsieur Chefneux had claimed to be going to His Majesty. But now he is keeping quiet. Your Majesty, please do not forget [me]. I pray to God to let us meet in safety.

Written in Zurich on the 25th day of Naḥasē [= 30 August "1888"].

The servant of His Majesty.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

Monsieur Ilg.

019. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Alfred Ilg
Zeila 6 September "1888"

Sent By Naggādrās Muḥammad. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been since we parted? I, thank God, am well.

The two letters you sent me, both of them have reached me. I, too, had sent you letters twice. I do not know if they reached [you]. I could not find the address. I had dictated, "estorelya". I do not know whether or not they reached [you]. Now, I am going to Djibouti. There is no problem about camels. Only you should come quickly. May God enable us to meet in bodily life. Amen.

The customs of the port of Zeila have become worse. And now, when you arrive in Aden, address and send all the articles to Djibouti. All the articles of His Majesty will be transported by Monsieur Decran. All the crosses arrived in Djibouti and are stored there. You, too, should send [yours] there. Otherwise, we will have to pay customs in any case.

Written in the town of Zeila on the 6th day of the month of Maskaram according to the European reckoning, "1888".

Al-Ḥağ Muḥammad Abubakkar al-māḥrum.

80 This statement is vague in the original, and it can mean it was unknown whether they were going to withdraw or that they had withdrawn, but that they might return again. The latter is congruent with the next statement.

020. Servants to Alfred Ilg
"Zeila" 7 September 1888

May it reach our master Monsieur Ilg. Our master, we pay our obeisance for all the time since our parting wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? As for us, we, thank God, are well. However, we have suffered a great deal. The heat has struck us hard. The letter you sent us has reached us. May God reward you on our behalf. But we are puzzled by your delay to come here. If things are all right with you, it does not matter. Since our stay here, they [others] went up to and came back from Abyssinia four times. And now, send us [a message] when you arrive in Aden. We cannot come in threes or [even] twos to purchase articles, as we have no money for the sea fare. Šawā Farrā is seriously ill at the foot.[81] Not all matters can be put on paper. May God enable us to meet eye to eye in the flesh and converse. Amen. Say all the boys. The customs of the port of Zeila is terrifying.

Written [in Zeila] on the 7th day of the month of Maskaram according to the reckoning of Europe 1888.

021. Neguś Menilek to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 12 September "1888"

Sent by Neguś Menilek. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed spent the rainy season? I, thank God, am well. I am very pleased, as Zimmermann told me that you would start out in Naḥasē. And now, send [word] to Dağğāč Makwannen when you arrive in Djibouti so that you will have no problem. I have already sent him [word] that he should help you[pl.] whenever you encounter difficulties. May God enable us to meet again in safety.

Given in the city of Enṭoṭṭo on the 3rd day of Maskaram [= 12 September "1888"].
[Seal]: The Lion of Judah hath Prevailed.

Menilek, King of Šawā.[82]

81 This sentence is somewhat confused and rather difficult to understand its exact meaning. The name "Šawā Farrā" is not found in other documents. If related to the previous statement, the sentence may as well be a proverb underscoring that their idea to travel like Ilg to Europe to purchase things is a mere joke or an ironic remark at best. In that case, however, the pronominal suffix of the main verb should be that of the first person singular.

82 Cf. Mén fig. 32.

022. Gabrē to Alfred Ilg
"... September[?] 1888"[83]

Sent by Ato Gabrē[84]. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, have arrived well in Genbot [= 8.5.-6.6.1888]. We all are well. Walatta Śellāsē is at Fālle. She is well. Wayzaro Walatta Māryām[85] is fine. The children are also well. Balāynaš, Tasammā, Damessē and the whole family are well. There is no mishap. They are in Bulgā.

Why! We have no letter from you. I have not received any letter since my return [home]. Are you not well?

I have given [to your family] here the 80 Thalers the Rās [Gobanā] had sent me through your hands and, hence, buy and bring me a rifle, if possible, or else articles of trade. Why! my lord, you have not sent me [word] whether you received the money which was in the hands of Monsieur Chefneux. And now, if you have received it, buy and bring me a rifle or else articles of trade. If you have not received it, and if you do not now, the money will be lost. Please, my lord, do not come before receiving it.

The Negus has come back safely from an expedition[86]. The Rās is about to start out for Lēqā.[87]

023. Gabra Egzi^{c}abḥēr Gobbāw Dastā to Alfred Ilg
Dar es Salaam 10 November 1888

May it reach my very venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. I had previously written to you twice while I was in Jerusalem. I do not know if they [the letters] reached you or not. Ato Flad has written me that you might be returning to Abyssinia. I am not in good health in this country. God willing, I wish very much to return to my home country. If you send someone to the people of Ato Flad in Dambeyā, I beg you to tell brother Sanbatu or Aragāwi to send you news of my mother and other relations, for they know all my relatives. I also beg you to

83 This letter is not dated; it is also not concluded in the usual way. Judging it from the context, however, it was written probably between the Ethiopian new year day of 1881 (= 10 September 1888) and the Masqal Holiday celebrated on 26 September.

84 Apparently a businessman, as the contract implies. It is, however, difficult to identify him, as only a part of his name is given in the document.

85 Ethiopian wife of Alfred Ilg by whom he had two or three children. After he married a compatriot in 1894, she retired to Ad^{c}a, to the south of Addis Ababā, where she was given land.

86 This is obviously Menilek's march to Bagēmeder via Wallo from where he returned across Goǧǧām where he concluded an agreement with Negus Takla Haymanot to resist the Emperor jointly if he marched against them. Cf. Chris Prouty Rosenfeld, A Chronology of Menilek II of Ethiopia, 1844-1913 (East Lansing, Mich., 1976) pp. 131-33.

87 When he returned from this expedition, if he undertook it at all, is not clear. He quelled a rebellion in the Gurāgē region in March of the next year and died suddenly at Entoṭṭo in July. Cf. BTAG pp. 800 f.

inform my mother of my well-being, if they [the relations] have survived all those plagues and disaster. I would also be very happy if you could send me some advice on whatever you think fit. May He enable us to see each other eye to eye. Give my best regards to Alaqā Kidāna Māryām, Mammerē Mikāᶜēl, your household, Ato Appenzeller and all who remember me. All of us here send our greetings. Your old friend, Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr Gobbāw Dastā.[88]

Gobau Desta.
Dar-es-Salaam, den 10. Nov. 1888.
Zanzibar, Ostafrika.

[P.S.]: What about my sister, Dastā, who was then ill? Could she have reached her home region safely?

024. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Ḥarargē 24 December "1888"

May it reach Neguś Menilek. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, Your Majesty? By the grace of God and through the help of your guardian angel, I have arrived in Ḥarargē. Our goods have arrived in Gildēssā and they may reach Ḥarargē tomorrow. I had intended to start out for Your Majesty quickly. [But] Ato Tasammā told me that the Yettu [Ittu] route is not accessable, and I am worried. If I find a way through Ērar, I will travel through Ērar. I had expected a letter of Your Majesty. I felt very sad when Ato Tasammā told me that none had come for me. I will hand over to Ato Tasammā all our goods. Let it be the will of Your Majesty to give a strict order that nothing goes wrong or anything breaks. As to news, I have written to Monsieur Zimmermann. I have not found much aid. I will send you a letter when help is available.[89]
Written in Ḥarargē on 16 Tāḥśāś [= 24 December "1888"].
The servant of the Neguś, Monsieur Ilg.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

88 Various sources assume that Kantibā Gabru, c. 1850-1949, was originally known as Gobbāw, which assumption I had also adopted. Cf. Bairu Tafla, Four Ethiopian Biographies: Däjjazmač Gärmamé, Däjjazmač Gäbrä Egziᶜabhér Morädä, Däjjazmač Balča and Käntiba Gäbru Dästa = JES 7.2 (1969) pp. 22-31. The present document shows his full name. The fact that his sister was also named "Dasta" shows that "Dasta" was the name of his grandfather, for a child would never be given the name of a parent, but often that of a grandparent, in the Ethiopian tradition. Hence, "Gabru" was the short form of his real name, Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr, and Gobbāw his father's name.

89 This sentence should have probably been in the conditional, as the writer was already back in Ethiopia and he was unlikely to effect the desired assistance of the Europeans.

025. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
"Ankobar" 31 March "1889"

May it reach my father, Abuna Mātēwos[90]. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

I have received your letter. When I heard your words, I was exceedingly saddened. When you sent me a list of items you wanted to have, at the time I departed for my home country, I told you that my money was limited and that I would buy for you some of the things I could afford. And now, I have brought what I could. I made such great efforts and had hoped that you would thank me for it; I did not expect you to be angry. You tell me that the shoes were not good enough even for a child. Actually, I had hoped they would be of some use. In so far as you had told me that they should be of the size of Monsieur Zimmermann's shoes, I brought exactly the size of his feet. And now, if they do not fit, return them to me. I was short of money and have not brought shoes even for myself. And now, here I am sending you my own shoes. Please accept them. Furthermore, I have sent you seven large paintings, i.e. what has been available. Accept them. Believing that you were my father, I had yearned to meet you quickly. My coming to you was for friendship, and not from hope to get money from you. I have not seen my children since my return from my home country, and the work has exhausted me; I shall now go to see my children. Be not angry, my father. May God enable us to meet again in safety. Amen.

Written on the 23rd day of Maggābit [= 31 March "1889"].

026. Alfred Ilg to Neguś Menilek
Ankobar 18 April "1889"

May it reach Neguś Menilek. My lord, I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been since we parted? I, by the grace of God and under your guardian angel, am well.

Your letter and the good news reached me in ...[91]. I was delighted. May God reward you manifoldly on my behalf. I was very sorry to hear of the death of His [Imperial] Majesty[92]. However, I pray to God for the crown[93] to be yours, the venerated Neguś.

Your Majesty!

90 1847-1926, one of the four Coptic bishops consecrated for Ethiopia. He was assigned to Šawā by Emperor Yoḥannes IV and he replaced Abuna Pēṭros as the metropolitan after the death of the Emperor in 1889. He was influential at the court of Emperor Menilek and participated in state council, controlled education and was involved in internal and external politics. Cf. RouAW 307.

91 A couple of words are illegible at this point.

92 = Yoḥannes IV who was killed in action against the Mahdists in March 1889.

93 Lit. "the government".

I had intended to give you a watch-case at Dabra Berhan; I forgot it. Your Majesty, do not be angry. Behold, I have now sent you a quality watch-case; please accept it. Furthermore, you had told me to send you small things which you had not yet seen, and I have now sent a good minta[?] wire, silver scale, quality silk knitting yarn, a good quality of silver and goldlike thread for knitting *Barnos*[94], *Marasat*,[95] *Lamd*[96] and *Qamis*.[97] I have also sent a bale of quality silk to make *qamis* for you. I have also included some soap. I have further sent a good pair of shoes for you as a token of friendship. Accept them, please. And now, when Your Majesty ordered me to install the machine in Dabra Berhan, I went to Enṭoṭṭo to arrange transport of implements and I had them brought. I will install the machine. However, this was in obedience to your order; otherwise I do not believe it is convenient. The implements and Monsieur Zimmermann are in Enṭoṭṭo while I and the machine are in Dabra Berhan. If a small part is needed, I cannot find one.

Your Majesty!

Furthermore, you have not told me which persons should receive training in the making of the cartridges. And now, send me which ones should be assigned.

Your Majesty!

You had told me in Dabra Berhan that I should receive six thousand Thalers from Ḥarargē. I failed to get a letter [to that effect]. And now, my lord, send me your word so that we may be able to buy a few ivories. I beg you my lord. Whom do I have other than the Negus?

Your Majesty!

In order not to be idle, Monsieur Zimmermann takes care of the *Šāšēgo* rifles and Sneider *Aqwāfir* of Monsieur Pino.[98] Monsieur Appenzeller went down [to the coast] very

94 A black felt cloak with an attached, pointed hood often worn by traditional Ethiopian notables. Cf. KaneDic 856.

95 "Ornamental saddlecloth often of silk and embroidered." KaneDic p. 180.

96 "Sheepskin cloak or ornate ceremonial garment of velvet and gold brocade which may also have a lion's mane or panther skin attached to the shoulders and which is worn by persons of status." KaneDic p. 50.

97 "Ceremonial silk shirt given by the monarch or a high-ranking notable as a sign of favour or as a reward for a service; covering placed over the saddle on a mount belonging to a person of status." KaneDic p. 703.

98 This sentence is rather difficult in the original to understand, as it contains a number of obscure terms. The phrase "yāgabāl" literally means "he brings in". This would imply that Zimmermann was helping the named technician transport the weapons into the town of Enṭoṭṭo. But in another context (cf doc. 032) the same event is expressed as if he took over a repair shop. "Šāšēgo" or "Šāšago", according to an Amharic dictionary, is an old rifle which, however, is not described further. Cf KBMQ 338. But in this and other contexts, it must also have signified a workshop where rifles were repaired. "Aqwāfir" on the other hand seems to be an unidentified part of a rifle or a rifle case. None of the Amharic dictionaries has an entry of this term. The technician Pino (variously written as Alois Pinot and Aloi Pinaud in some sources) was a French trader who ran business of all sorts including gun trade in Šawā in the 1880s and 90s. A contemporary French traveller described his background as "capitaine au long cours" who was sent to Šawā by the firm "Tramier, Lafarge et Cie" in Marseilles. Cf. Paul Soleillet, Voyages en Éthiopie (Janvier 1882 - Octobre 1884) Notes, Lettres & Documents divers (Rouen 1886) p. 10. See also Roger Grau, "Biographie résumée d'Éloi Pino (1845-1907)" in: Claude Lepage (Ed.), Études éthiopiennes. Actes de la X. conférence internationale des études éthiopiennes, Paris 24-28 août 1988. Vol. 1 (Paris 1994) pp. 559-566; Michel Perret, "Voyage sans retour: Henry Lucereau en Ethiopie (1879-80)" in: Maria

happy and praising the Neguś.

Written in Ankobar on the 11th day of Miyāzyā [= 18 April "1889"].

Says Your servant Monsieur Ilg.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

027. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 18 April "1889"

May it reach Wayzaro Ṭāytu. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeen been, my lady? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

My lady,

At the time you left Dabra Berhan, I was busy with His Majesty and, hence, you left before I could bid you farewell. And now, please do not be angry with me. May God bring you back in safety. Amen.

Written in Ankobar on the 11th day of Miyāzyā [= 18 April "1889"].

The servant of my lady, Monsieur Ilg.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

028. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
Ankobar 8 May "1889"

May it reach our father, Abuna Mātēwos. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my father? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. Thank you very much. I have no reason to be angry. It is true, I was sorry assuming that you were angry. Now that I have seen your letter, I am happy. I have sent [you] the price list of all the items in an envelope[99]; have a look at it. The price is that which was paid in my home country, and not that of this country. I am unable to come to you now, as His Majesty has assigned me a tough job. I will come and see you when my work is finished. May God enable us to meet each other again in safety. Amen.

Caravaglios (Ed.), "L'Africa al tempi di Daniele Comboni". Atti del Congresso Internazionale di Studi Africani, Roma 19-21 novembre 1981 (Rome 1981) p. 197.

99 The phrase "badabdabbe adregge" may also be translated as, "together with the letter" or "enclosed in a letter".

Written in Ankobar on the 1st day of Genbot [= 8 May "1889"] says Monsieur Ilg.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

029. Alfred Ilg to Abuna Mātēwos
Ankobar 11 May "1889"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach our father, Abuna Mātēwos - the metropolitan. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my father? I, thank God, am well.

I have received your letter and five hundred and forty-seven Thalers. Thank you very much. I have received a jar of honey and a jar of butter. Thank you indeed. Herewith I have sent [you] the exchange rate of the Thaler.[100] I, too, bought a hundred Thalers for three hundred and eighty Francs when coming back from my home country. Nowadays, the Thaler has fallen in value since the coming of the Italians. You have said that [your] beaker[101] was broken. I am sending [you] two beakers of fine quality. Now I heard that you intend to go to the Neguś. May God accompany you and bring you back safely.
Written in Ankobar on the 4th day of Genbot [= 11 May "1889"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

030. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 1 June "1889"

May it reach Emperor Menilek. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I was exceedingly happy when I heard that Neguś Takla Haymanot and Rās Mikāᶜēl[102] have submitted. Congratulations, Your Majesty! I had heretofore sent a letter; no answer came to me. The installation of the machine is almost finished. Hence, we shall begin to produce cartridges in a few days' time. Dağğāzmāč Makwannen has told me to send a

100 This statement is rather enigmatic in the original. Apparently one or two phrases have been either omitted or transposed. The translation is based on the general context.

101 "Berellē", which was imported primarily from Austria and Germany, was a highly esteemed cultural object out of which mainly *Ṭağ* was drunk.

102 Later Neguś of Wallo. he was originally a Muslim and was known as Muḥammad ʾAli. He was baptized in 1878 under the pressure of Emperor Yoḥannes IV who became his godfather. He married a daughter of Menilek II from which union was born Leğ Iyyāsu. He governed his home region, Wallo, until the crisis of 1916. He died in custody in 1918. HWSBiog p. 12; Mén pp. 157, 167, 261 and passim; MSEthCul p. 223.

servant to fetch the money granted by His Majesty and, hence, I am sending one, says the servant of His Majesty, Monsieur Ilg - the engineer.

Written in Ankobar on the 25th day [= 1 June "1889"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

031. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 1 June 1889

May it reach Wayzaro Ṭāytu. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, O my lady? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

When I heard that your brother[103] has been entitled Rās, I was exceedingly happy. Congratulations to you. And now may God enable us to meet again in safety. Amen.

Written in Ankobar on the 25th day of Genbot [= 1 June "1889"].

The servant of my lady, Monsieur Ilg - the engineer.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

032. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 6 June 1889

Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

I - Monsieur Ilg, the servant of the Negus - had previously sent a letter to His Majesty. However, there came to me no reply. Furthermore, Your Majesty sent [an order] to Monsieur Zimmermann: "Take this and go to Monsieur Ilg". However, we need someone who should be trained for His Majesty and Monsieur Zimmermann should stay away. I [expressed] in my letter which I addressed to His Majesty on the 14th day of Miyāzyā [= 21 April] that I favoured establishing the thread[?] machine in Enṭoṭṭo. I thought it might be convenient for everything. And now by the grace of God and by the grace of Your Majesty's guardian angel, I have begun installing the machine in Ankobar. It could not be completed till now, as the materials were not yet brought from Amān. Now, Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq has found three good workmen for me. The names of the workmen are: Bāyyē, Walda Mikāᶜēl and his son.[104] As there was shortage of some implements, I appealed to him [the Azzāž] and there they came. Hence, having consulted with Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq, I have sent [word to] Monsieur

103 = Walē Beṭul, a brother of the Empress.

104 No further information has been available about these three would-be technicians.

Zimmermann not to come. Furthermore, I am beginning the production of cartridges today, by the will of Christ, and I will send samples to His Majesty. As for Monsieur Zimmermann, let Your Majesty consider and send him [instruction] what to keep himself busy with. Until Your Majesty sends the assignment through the Azzāž, he operates the *Šāšago* of Monsieur Pino in order not to be idle.[105] The rifles will be good, and they will be serviceable to Your Majesty. Your Majesty, as long as there is skill, the rifles will not remain defective. May the God of Israel bless the Negus for us.

Written in the town of Ankobar on the 10th day of Genbot 1881 of the Year of Grace [= 6 June 1889].

[Unsigned].

033. Gobanā Dāčči to Alfred Ilg
... 10 June "1889"

Sent by Rās Gobanā. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been, my brother?[106] We, thank God, are well. Behold, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, I have come back safely after vanquishing my enemies. And now my brother, here I am sending Qañňāzmāč Dāmṭē. Gratify me with the articles just as I am pleased by your safe return. Give them to him and he will bring them to me. My brother, if you wish that we meet, let someone come along with Qañňāzmāč Dāmṭē to present the articles and you come to Fālli where we can meet eye to eye and converse.[107]

Written on the 4th day of Sanē [= 10 June "1889"].

[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Rās Gobanā.

034. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 15 June "1889"

Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

105 Cf. doc. 026.

106 This greeting includes, in addition to "eggegun", another intensifying term "bezuwen" signifying very many, many times, etc. which does not fit into the English rendering.

107 The significance of the first part of this sentence is probably that the Rās wanted to fix the appointment and notify Ilg through his own messenger. The Rās was very mobile, and Ilg could have otherwise travelled to Fālli for nothing. It is not, however, certain if they ever met thereafter, as Ilg was busy installing a machine in Ankobar [cf. doc. 030] and the Rās died suddenly at the end of the same month.

Your letter written on the 13th day of Genbot [= 20 June] has reached me. May God reward you on my behalf. Before this letter reached me, I had sent you the matter regarding Monsieur Zimmermann in a letter . And now, behold I have sent the good tidings about the production of the cartridges by the grace of God and by the grace of Your Majesty's guardian angel. I have sent a few samples in a box. Accept and have a look at them. What is listed on a piece of paper as numbers 1-17 shows you the beginning and end of the production process. We shot the 18th for a test and it did not fracture at all. It is a delightful thing and, hence, rejoice. For my part, I exerted myself a great deal on behalf of Your Majesty. Unafraid of imprisonment and confiscation when coming from abroad, I brought the machine through for you. I count for a trickster before the British. Henceforth, I shall have no access through their ports, for I am an enemy of many people. I put in all this effort to serve Your Majesty. And now, when God bestows upon you the Imperial power,[108] for He is bountiful, do not forget your deserving servant. And now my lord, I will in accordance with Your Majesty's order repair[109] the cartridge gadget of Monsieur Antonelli. Well now I will beg of Your Majesty something. You had earlier promised to send me to my home country giving along the products of the tailors, goldsmiths, weavers, blacksmiths - to exhibit the sample products of all these. This has remained unfulfilled to my disadvantage until this day. And now I beg the realization of this promise of yours. I have not stopped thinking about you and your country. I believe it will also bring prestige for you. I, too, will be well reputed. The money and the articles are of course yours. Whether you tell me to sell them and bring back the value, or to return them, it will be done according to your wish. Your Majesty! If you are going to grant me [this], let it not delay too long. Please send me your reply soon. If you find two giant elephant tusks, I beg you not to give them away to someone else, so that they may be sent along with the articles. It is not to own them, but to exhibit them. I also beg you [to commit for the exhibition] what other things may be found. Whether you consent or refuse, I beg you to consider [the request] seriously. It would be good if you could assign six workmen and 20 assistants to the cartridge production, for much cannot be produced if the number of workers is not increased. The present workmen have learnt the work quickly. I beg you to appoint an industrious foreman for them. Behold, I have also sent coin samples. I do not intend their production; it is rather to give the impression that the plant is for minting. And now I pray that the God of Israel preserve you. Your Majesty! send me the reply to everything quickly. Says the servant of the Neguś, Monsieur Ilg.

Written in Ankobar on the 9th day of Sanē [= 15 June "1889"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

108 Lit.: "the King of Kingship".
109 The term "abattaa" can also be translated with fabricate, construct or invent.

035. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ankobar 16 June "1889"

May it reach Wayzaro Ṭāytu. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.
How have you indeed been? I, by the grace of God, am well. Behold, by the will of God and by the grace of the guardian angel of my lady, I have sent samples of the cartridge production, as a sign of good tidings. Rejoice! May God enable us to meet again in safety. Amen.

Written in Ankobar on the 10th day of Sanē [= 16 June "1889"].
The servant of my lady, Monsieur Ilg
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

036. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Ankobar 16 June "1889"

May it reach Daǧǧāzmāč Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Hurrah! By the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, I have been successful in the manufacture of cartridges. It has been a success for me! Rejoice, for it has become very sucessful to my advantage. I have sent tidings to His Majesty. And now, my lord, I have sent my servants to receive on my behalf [the sum of] 5500 Thalers you had promised, and please give it to them and send them to me quickly. I have sent to Monsieur Rimbaud[110] to receive it on my behalf. I beg you, my lord, to see to it that the servants do not delay. Do not make it in *Mahallaq*. If *Mahallaq* is brought here, it is not considered worth anything in this region[111]. You, too, know it. It will take time until it is changed in the country over there. Our money is also a small sum, and it will dissipate in the course of the exchange and so forth. Do me a favour, my lord. I have further requested Ato Moussaia to give to you a quality Martini rifle together with some cartridges which I have sent you. Accept it. It is of an excellent quality. And now, may Christ, the Redeemer of the World, protect you during your travel to Europe. May God enable us to meet again in safety. Amen.
Says Monsieur Ilg.

Written in Ankobar on the 10th day of Sanē [= 16 June "1889"].[112]

110 Jean-Nicolas-Arthur Rimbaud (1854-91), a French poet who travelled all over Europe, the Middle East and the Far East and who lived in Ḥarar ca. 1881-91 as an agent of a French firm and later as a weapon and diverse articles trader. He also undertook various jobs including circus and watchmanship. He fell victim to cancer and his leg was amputated; he died in Marseilles on 10 November.

111 Lit.: "country".

112 This letter was probably written by someone on behalf of Ilg, as several orthographic and grammatical points recur which are not common to his other letters. The handwriting also appears to be different.

037. Alfred Ilg to Gobanā Dāčč̣i
Ankobar 20 June "1889"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Gobanā. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Saviour of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.

Your letter has reached me; thank you. Congratulations upon your safe return.[113] Hurrah on your success! I have forwarded all the implements which I brought from overseas for your excellency[114]. I have sent Monsieur Zimmermann to install them on my behalf. Rejoice, my lord. I am unable to come now, as the work of the Negus has to be completed before the rains. Tidings! My lord, I have been very successful in the production of the cartridges. Rejoice! Qañña̅zmāč Dāmṭē[115] will tell you all about it. Before his departure, Monsieur Pino had requested me to sell on his behalf the cartridges of the[?] *Šāsbo*[116] in Amān. I beg your permission to let me take them. Furthermore, he has said that we should sell the *Šāsbo* rifle and the *Aqwāfir* of the Sanadir.[117] And now, Wayzaro Ayyalač̣[118] has claimed 60 rifles for her money. Please, do not deny Monsieur Savouré the rest. I will come before the rains and we shall talk about everything. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Ankobar on the 14th day of Sanē [= 20 June "1889"].
[Not signed].

038. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 26 June "1889"

[May it reach] Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

By the good fortune of His Majesty, we have manufactured here the cartouche of

113 The Rās had just returned from a military expedition to Western Wallaggā where Mahdist military activities from the Sudan were spotted.

114 Lit.: "... for the Rās".

115 Probably an officer of Rās Gobanā whom Ilg met in Ankobar or Dabra Berhan. No further information has been available about him. But he may as well be the same as the later Fitāwrāri sent to Moscow in 1895, though no evidence is available at the moment.

116 Cf. fn. 98 supra.

117 This sentence is rather vague in the original and a part of the sentence makes little sense. Hence, the translation is unreliable.

118 Wife of Rās Gobanā. She acted on her husband's behalf whenever he went on a military expedition. She is known to have built a number of churches in Šawā.

Antonelli's Sneider gun [and] improved on it. I have sent a sample to His Majesty.[119] See it, Your Majesty. And now, we have a problem with the manufacturing site. The Azzāž[120] suggested Wāššā. Wāššā is not convenient for the work. At least a stone house should be built in Muq Meder, or else let His Majesty find a good place, one which is not too far from the coal and serviceable to the craftsmen. As to the woodwork, Monsieur Ṗēṭros[121] has completed it for me very well. Henceforth, he is going home. I beg Your Majesty to recognize his hard work. He has told me that he was short of money.[122] Your letter written on the 1st day of Sanē [= 7 June] has reached me. I have sent 12 machine thread-spools[123] and, hence, accept them. I am badly in need of nitric acid for the machine which coats metal with gold or silver. I heard that it is in Your Majesty's possession. Please send me two bottles.

Written in Ankobar on the 20th day of Sanē [= 26 June "1889"]. The servant of the King of Kings,
Monsieur Ilg.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

039. Alfred Zimmermann to Menilek II
Enṭoṭṭo 26 June "1889"

[May it reach] Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

The letter of Your Majesty has reached me. Thank you indeed. I pray that your Empire be peaceful and that God provide you with long life and wealth.

The servant of the King of Kings, Monsieur Zimmermann.
Written at Enṭoṭṭo on the 20th day of Sanē [= 26 June "1889"].
[Not signed].

119 Ilg wrote at this particular time similar letters to Empress Ṭāytu and Rās Gobanā. Only that of Makwannen is reproduced here, as it includes other historical elements.

120 Walda Ṣādeq, governor of Ankobar and the surrounding areas. Cf. Bairu Tafla, Two Ethiopian Biographies: Wähni Azzaž Wäldä Ṣadeq Abbā Mänzer 1838-1909, and Fitāwrāri Habtä Giyorgis Abbā Mäčal, 1853-1926 = JES 6.1 (1968) pp. 123-130.

121 A Greek artisan who undertook various construction work in Šawā. His full name has not been given, it has not been possible to identify him in the sources.

122 Lit.: "short of silver".

123 It is not clear whether these were textile threads, as the Amharic term signifies today, or machine wire rolls.

040. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ankobar 27 June "1889"

[May it reach] Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay obeisance wishing that the Saviour of the World give you health.

Your Majesty, A young man by the name of Athanas Rigas came from Ḥarar in search of work, and I have kept him working with me until I obtain Your Majesty's permission. He is now being trained in the making of cartridges. He is a good person and grasps well. My lord, as to [his] remuneration, let it be according to the wish of Your Majesty, says the servant of the King of Kings, Monsieur Ilg, the engineer.

Written in Ankobar on the 21st day of Sanē [= 27 June "1889"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

041. Athanas Rigas to Menilek II
Ankobar 30 June "1889"

[May it reach] Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Trusting in Your Majesty, I came from Ḥarargē together with the money-minting machine and entered Ankobar. I came to your kingdom hoping that Your Majesty offer me a job. Until Your Majesty's permission will have been granted, behold I am working with Monsieur Ilg.

Written in Ankobar on the 24th day of Sanē [= 30 June "1889"].
[Signature]: Athanas Rigas

042. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Ankobar 30 June "1889"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, by the grace of God, am well.

Hurrah, my lord! The cartridges have been produced successfully! I have sent you herewith the samples. I am pleased; let it be that you [also] rejoice. Let it be very clear to you that I have worked hard for His Majesty and for your country. You are the man among the Abyssinians on whom one can count. And now, my lord, I have dispatched some ivories, and I beg you not to let it be taxed. I trust on you, my lord. May God let us meet again in life.

Written in Ankobar on the 24th day of Sanē [= 30 June "1889"].
[Not signed].

043. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Enṭoṭṭo 5 September "1889"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent me has reached me. Thank you. When we heard in the royal court the news that you defeated the Gāllā, we became exceedingly happy. All the people praise you. Congratulations! And now I pray to God that you succeed in the matter for which you are going. May God return you back in safety.

Written at Enṭoṭṭo on the 1st day of Ṗāgumēn [= 5 September "1889"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing
Monsieur Ilg

044. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 31 October "1889"

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. Peace be to you.

Behold by the power of God [and] the love of my people, I will be crowned King of Kings of Ethiopia at seven o'clock of the morning of Sunday the third of November 1889. Furthermore, there will be a banquet after the church ceremony. I would be pleased if you could attend both.

Given at the city of Enṭoṭṭo on the 22nd day of Ṭeqqemt [= 31 October "1889"].

045.A. Menilek II to Umberto I
Enṭoṭṭo 25 November 1889

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach the venerated and sublime Umberto[124] I, King of Italy. Peace be to you.
By the will of God and the love of the people, I have fulfilled the ceremonies due to the King of Kings of Ethiopia on the 25th day of Ṭeqqemt 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 3

124 1844-1900, son of Vittorio Emanuele II; enthroned 1878; killed by an anarchist.

November 1889]. I hope, by the will of God and the help of my friends, to defeat my enemies and unite and make Ethiopia a strong nation. In so far as our friendship has until this day stood fast, I pray to God that your prayer and mine be combined before God and to help me to be able to administer justice to my people through knowledge and in the truth.

Given in the city of Enṭoṭṭo on the 16th day of Ḥedār 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 25 November 1889].

045.B. Menilek II to Italian Foreign Ministry Enṭoṭṭo "25 November 1889"

... hath prevailed. May it reach the foreign minister of the Italian government. Peace be to you.

By the will of God and the love of the people, I have fulfilled the ceremonies due to the King of Kings of Ethiopia on the 25th day of Ṭeqqemt 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 3 November 1889]. I am imparting this so that you may know it.

[Given] in the city of Enṭoṭṭo.

045.C. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Margarita Enṭoṭṭo "25 November 1889"

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach the venerated and sublime Queen Margarita[125], Queen of Italy. Peace be to you.

By the [will] of God and the love of the people, I have fulfilled the ceremony due to the Empress of Ethiopia on the 27th day of Ṭeqqemt 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 5 November 1889]. The ceremony was the same as that of His Majesty.[126] I pray to God that our kingdom endures firm in love and peace.

[Given] at Enṭoṭṭo ...[127]

125 = Teresa Giovanna Savoy, Daughter of Ferdinand, Duke of Genoa, Umberto's uncle. Born 1851; married Umberto 1868; said to be a strong and ambitious personality. Influential over her husband as well as in the early part of Mussolini's era. She died in January 1926. Cf. Aʾemero No. 1 Ṭer 1918 YG = 9 January 1926.

126 This sentence is poorly legible in the original.

127 This document was probably only a draft, though the final version could not have differed much except in its format. Margarita, Regina d'Italia, in any case acknowledged receipt of the message in a comparable letter dated Rome 16 March 1890. Cf. L'Italia in Africa. Serie Storica I: Etiopia/Mar Rosso VIII (Rome 1977) p. 111.

046. Alfred Ilg to Yašimmabēt ʾAli
Enṭoṭṭo 14 December "1889"

May it reach Wayzaro Yašimmabēt. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lady? I, thank God, am well.

Please, my lady, say a word on my behalf, your friend. Eight months have elapsed since His Majesty told me to receive six thousand Thalers from Ḥarargē, and I have so far received only two thousand Thalers. I have no other backer in Ḥarargē other than you. I beg you to give a warning to the officials. I entreat with you [to act], my lady. Monsieur Zimmermann will now be going to his home country. He sends his greetings. May God enable us to meet again in safety.

Written at Enṭoṭṭo on the 6th day of Tāḥśāś [= 14 December "1889"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

047. Yašimmabēt ʾAli to Alfred Ilg
"Ḥarar" 29 December "1889"

Sent by Wayzaro Yašimmabēt. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been, my brother? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. Through [the help of] your guardian angel, I gave birth [to a child] safely. However, I am worrying, as I have no news of the Dağğāzmāč.[128] I have now facilitated[129] and handed out on your behalf the Thalers allotted to you. May God enable us to meet in life.

Written on the 21st day of Tāḥśāś [= 29 December "1889"].

048. Engedā to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 23 April "1890"?

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

128 Dağğāzmāč (later Rās) Makwannen was sent as an envoy to Italy in the summer of 1889 from where he returned via Massawa at the end of the year and met the Emperor in Maqalē. It took him a long time to return to Ḥarar. His wife was apparently not informed for a time that he had already returned from abroad.

129 The phrase "carresse" [lit. "having finished"] is rather vague: either she gave out the whole sum of money without keeping back any portion of it or, as it is presumed in this translation, she saw to it that the administration paid out the money due to him.

I have sent 32 Thalers through the hands of Takla Aragāy and Abta Wald, and let to my advantage be no fees or taxes be deducted. If I die, let them be given to the poor on my behalf. Says Alaqā Engedā.

Written at Enṭoṭṭo on the 16th day of Miyāzyā[130] [= 23 April "1890"?].

049. Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Asab 26 April 1890

May it reach my friend, my child's godfather, the venerated and awe-inspiring Ato Ilg, head of the skilled in Ethiopia. I pay to you[131] my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

With regard to what you had ordered me, I did not meet Monsieur Luccardi[132]. I handed it over to his proxy in the presence of Ato Capucci,[133] Ato Walda Amānuᶜēl and the Italian officials. I took the Thalers to the government house and handed them over before the command supérieur. I have received a receipt. However, at the time he received it, the Thaler had fallen in value in the exchange. I was for retaining it some weeks longer; but you know the problem of your society: you [pl.] say, "time is gold". He sold it quickly at a reduced price. You will find the matter in his letter. He sent the letter through the hands of engineer Capucci who in turn will send it on your behalf to Ato Viscardi. I cannot write you news of other developments, because I have not heard anything. Furthermore, I am engaged in trade, and not in politics. So far, I have helped the Neguś well in his relations with the Italians, though I have found nothing that would be beneficial to me. I have heard none who would mention your name. Dağğāč Mašašā[134] is in Massawa. He delayed me in Massawa for sometime for his own purpose and on account of the Tegrē affair. At first, the

130 This term is written in the original as "Mazya" which is the Tegreñña version.

131 Respect form.

132 = Giuseppe A. Luccardi, an Italian businessman in Massawa since 1879. Since 1881, he was vice-consul for Italy in Massawa. PuDiz p. 185.

133 = Luigi Capucci (1857-1920), an Italian engineer, adventurer and spy who worked in Egypt, Awsā, Ethiopia and Djibouti from 1882 onward. In the 1890s, he provided the Italian secret service with information about movements and developments in Addis Ababā and the northern provinces. Cf. PuDiz p. 68; Carlo Zaghi, "l'Italia e l'Etiopia alla Vigilia di Adua" in: Gli Annali dell'Africa Italiana nei Dispacci Segreti di Luigi Capucci 4.2 (1947) p. 539.; CRItEt pp. 466-68.

134 = Dağğāzmāč Mašašā Warqē (ca. 1850-1917), son of an Armenian artisan, Garabat better known as Warqē, and an Ethiopian woman. He was educated in the Presbyterian college at Bombay and he was known for his mastering languages. He served Menilek as a court official and councillor until he was appointed governor of western Tegrāy in 1890. In 1893, he was involved in a plot to assassinate the Emperor, as the result of which he was sentenced to death. The sentence was commuted to imprisonment and he was later rehabilitated and was sent as an Imperial envoy to Turkey and the countries of Central Europe in 1905 and 1907. Cf. ZGSYoh 285 f.; Bairu Tafla, Ethiopia and Germany. Cultural, political and economic relations, 1871-1936 = ÄthFor 5 (Wiesbaden 1981) pp. 112, 114, 219, 249.

relationship of Daǧǧāč Mašašā with the Italians was not good. Now that lately telegrammes came from Rome, it has improved. I suppose it will eventually be fine. On the Tegrē side, there is none - be it Rās Alulā[135] or others - who ignores the orders of Daǧǧāč Mašašā. There is nonetheless famine there. The people of ʾAdwā are in Asmarā. I am afraid the famine in Tegrē will cause something disastrous between the two governments. If you can, write me news of Šawā, for I have put some effort into forwarding your Thalers. You have been clever in choosing me for the task, otherwise you would not have made it in time. You, too, should invest some effort in my favour. I have difficulty with the question of camels which is lagging. The reason is said to be Abdurahman's disappointment with Šawā. I am saying this so that you may know about it, but there is nothing you can do about it. May He give you health.

Written in Asab on 19 Miyāzyā 1882 [= 26 April 1890].
Georges Guébrecelassié Négoussié[136]

050. Abbā Ǧefār to Alfred Ilg
Ankobar 1 May 1890

Sent by Abbā Ǧefār,[137] the King of Ǧemmā. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been, my friend? I, thank God, am well.

I congratulate you on your safe return. I had the ivory brought and given to Monsieur Zimmermann. My brother, I wish you longevity and may I be able to reciprocate. Do not forget me, and pray on my behalf so that God may free me.[138]

135 = Rās Alulā Engedā (Ca. 1827-97), a native of Tanbēn and one of the leading officials of Emperor Yoḥannes IV. From 1878-89 he governed the highlands to the north of the Marab. After the death of Yoḥannes, Alulā tried to serve Rās Mangašā with whom he repeatedly ran into conflict. He eventually retired to Addis Ababā from where he led a military contingent to fight the Italians at ʾAdwā in 1895-96. Cf. CRItEt p. 464 f.; ZGSYoh p. 271 f.; Haggai Erlich, Ethiopia and Eritrea during the scramble for Africa: A political biography of Rās Alulā, 1875-1897 (East Lansing, Mich. 1982).

136 = Ato Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē, a brother to Grāzmāč Yosēf and the father of the resistance fighter, Ṣegērēdā. He was a businessman with connections in Massawa, Djibouti, Zeila and Aden and, hence, he was known as Bāḥer Warāǧ = "sea commuter".

137 = Sultan Tullu Abbā Ǧefār II or ʿAbduh Muḥammad ibn Dāwud, son of Abbā Gomol who acceded to the throne of Ǧemmā in 1878 and held power until his death in 1932 with some interruptions when he was kept in custody. He submitted to the pressure of Menilek II in 1884 and was confirmed to his position as long as he paid tribute to the central government. Many state prisoners were said to have been kept under his custody. Cf. Mén pp. 45, 171; BTAG p. 721; Herbert S. Lewis, A Galla Monarchy. Jemma Abbā Jifar, Ethiopia, 1830-1932 (Madison - Milwaukee 1965) p. 24.

138 Abba Ǧefār was imprisoned for six months on a mountain near Ankobar town for having refused to give up Ḥassan Anǧāmo of Qabēnā who was defeated by Rās Gobanā in the late 1880s and took refuge in the kingdom of Abbā Ǧefār. Cf. Enrico Cerulli, Folk-Literature of the Galla of Southern Abyssinia = Harvard African Studies III (Cambridge, Mass., 1922) p. 74.

Given in the town of Ankobar on the 24th day after Miyāzyā began 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 1 May 1890].
[Seal in Arabic]: Al-Wāthiq bi-Allāh ʾAbduh Muḥammad ibn Dāwud ka-al-asad [= "ʾAbduh Muḥammad ibn Dāwud whom God strengthened in the Faith like a lion"].[139]

051. Land Purchase Contract
Ankobar 8 May 1890

With the permission of Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq, Monsieur Savouré has bought a piece of land from Emmētē Walatta Śellāsē for 42 Thalers. Attestants to the purchase were Ato Mulātu, Ato Kebratē, Ato Walda Māryām, Ato Kidāna Wald, Ato Gabra Māryām, Ato Fāntāyē, Ato Dubbē and Ato Bezunah. The security guarantor of Walatta Śellāsē is Ato Bezunah. The security guarantor of Monsieur Savouré is Ato Mulātu. The assurance guarantor is Ato Kebratē. We have concluded the agreement in the presence of Ato Yatagañ, the *Mād bēt*[140] judge.

Written in Ankobar on the first day of Genbot 1882, the year of St. Matthew,[141] [= 8 May 1890].[142]

052. Alfred Ilg to Walda Ṣādeq
Enṭoṭṭo 23 May "1890"

May it reach Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

When it was said that the beams for the bridge were too thick, I had sent [a message] to Monsieur Ṗēṭros. He sent me [word] that he was having [beams] prepared according to the measurement. The measurement I gave him is similar to that of the bridge on the upper Soddo. I meant that the bridges should be stable. Now the rainy season is approaching; it would have been good if we could go down immediately. However, let the men be numerous. We shall finish it quickly. I was sorry to hear that Monsieur Pino withheld the thing[s] of Monsieur Savouré. Now I have sent a letter to Monsieur Pino so that he would send me the thing[s]. I beg you, my lord, to confer with him. May God enable us to meet

139 Cf. Mén fig. 30.
140 An estate or a group of estates assigned by decree or tradition to supply the Imperial palace with grain, spices, fuel wood, etc. Hence, the supervisor or judge appointed to such estates is referred to by the same phrase. Cf. DMQ 750.
141 Actually, St. Mark.
142 An unidentifiable word appears at the end of the original.

again in safety. Amen.

Written in Entoṭṭo on the 16th day of Genbot [= 23 May "1890"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

Monsieur Ilg

053. Abbā Ǧefār to Alfred Ilg
Furi camp 26 June "1890"

Sent by Abbā Ǧefār, the King of Ǧemmā. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Why are you negligent about that thirteen *Waqēt*[143] of ivory? Why do you not speak out quickly and have it released? [The value] in Thaler is three Thalers short of a thousand. There are many witnesses that Darras claimed to have ordered the purchase for Monsieur Ilg, that I received an advance of 375 Thalers and that I spent the night there.[144] How can we lose our wealth while you are still around? Send me the ivory if you find it or else the Thalers.

Given in Furi[145] camp on the 20th day after Sanē began [= 26 June "1890"].

[Seal in Arabic]: Al-Wāthiq bi-Allāh ʾAbduh Muḥammad ibn Dāwud ka-al-asad [= "ʾAbduh Muḥammad ibn Dāwud whom God strengthened like a lion in the Faith"].

054. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Entoṭṭo 27 August 1890

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been?[146]

143 A measurement of weight usually used for valuable articles such as gold, ivory or civet. The amount it represented varied greatly throughout the centuries and in accordance with the material it was associated with. Cf Richard Pankhurst, "A Preliminary History of Ethiopian Measures, Weights and Values. Part 3" in: Journal of Ethiopian Studies 8/1 (1970) pp. 56-61. 12

144 The last part of this sentence is poorly legible and rather vague.

145 A hill and its surroundings to the south of Addis Ababā where provincial governors from the south camped before entering the capital. But this place may also be read Farri or Farre, a locality below Ankobar where the Sultan spent some time in confinement.

146 The verb "sanabbata" ("spending weeks"), normally used in such a context, is replaced in this particular one by "wala" ("spending a day"), possibly because the addressee was in the vicinity of the court and was seen by the sovereign very recently.

I, thank God, am well.

I have something of concern, and let it be that you come early tomorrow morning.

Given in the city of Enṭoṭṭo on the 21st day of Naḥasē 1882 of the Year of Grace [= 26 August 1890].

055. Menilek II to the Head of the Geographical Society in Rome ... 11 October 1890

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II of E...[147]

May it reach the head of the Geographical Society of Rome.[148] Peace be to you.

I have received your letter written on the 28th day of Ḥedār [= 6 December "1889"] through the hands of Dr. Traversi[149]. I am pleased that the physician came back to my country. Your agents who have hitherto been in Leṭ Mārafiyā have observed that the friendship between me and the Geographical Society in Rome was maintained, and I hope that these ones will also preserve our friendship and render services to me like the earlier ones. In as much as the friendship between Ourselves and Italy began through your efforts, so I hope that you will very much strive today toward strengthening it. I had hitherto sent a word of promise to your Society's agents to grant a piece of land to settle on in the country of the Gāllā, and now We have discussed with the physician to realize the grant in the near future.

[Given] On the 2nd day of Ṭeqqemt 1883 [= 11 October 1890].

147 This document was apparently a draft. Several words and letters are crossed out; the Imperial seal was not put on it and the titles of the Emperor are not fully realized. The place of composition is also missing at the end.

148 The "Società Geografica Italiana" with its headquarters in Milan established an exploration and research station in eastern Šawā in 1878. It is not clear why the Emperor now addresses his letter to a geographical society in Rome.

149 = Dr. Leopoldo Traversi (1856-1949), an Italian physician, explorer and political agent. He had his seat in Leṭ Mārafiyā and Addis Ababā from where he explored the rift valley and published some articles of geographical and ethnological interest. In the 1890s, he tried to negotiate a new treaty which would replace or continue that of Weč̣ālē. He returned to Italy after the Battle of ʿAdwā and was attached to a department in the war ministry which concerned Africa. PuDiz p. 287. RouAW 311 f.

056. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 29 October 1890

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been?[150] I, thank God, am well.

With regard to the planks, if the ridge beam cannot be pulled out, it is all right to leave the planks as they are, as Bağerond Bālčā[151] had proposed,[152] and cut out the internal ridge-pole if feasible. If, however, the planks will be disfigured as a result of the cutting out of the internal ridge-pole, then it serves no purpose and should be left as it is. I have been very happy to hear of the coming of Capucci. Your report that he was coming today thrilled me. If he arrives early, let it be that you bring him with you here. Did you draw from an earnest source the news which you sent me that the caravan of Monsieur Chefneux has arrived at Awāš? Could it be a rumour? If he really has come, then Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq will send me [the news]. A servant of his will probably come today.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 20th day of Ṭeqqemt 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 29 October 1890].

057. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 4 November 1890

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter addressed to the queen of England, which you had written and sent me, is spoiled, as dirt stained it when We tried to pull it out of the envelope to see it. I have now

150 Cf note 146 supra.

151 = Bālčā Sāfo, later Dağğāzmāč (ca. 1866-1936), a native of Ammayā, Gurāgē, who was brought to the court of Neguś Menilek as a captive and who attained a high office in a short time. He was in charge of royal weapons and implements before he demonstrated his ability in the operation of artillery at the campaign of ʾAdwā. He was subsequently appointed governor of Sidāmo with the title of Dağğāzmāč which he retained for about thirty years with some interruptions in 1907-09 and 1914-16. He was killed in action against the Fascists in Bačču to the south of Addis Ababā. Cf. BTFEthBio pp. 14-21; Jules Borelli, Éthiopie Méridionale. Journal de mon Voyage aux Pays Amhara, Oromo et Sidama (Paris 1890) pp. 150 f.

152 In the original, a drawing of the planks is placed at this point.

sent to you the messengers and the letter to be rewritten. Rewrite it and give it to them[153] and they should proceed from there and Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq should escort them. Since Rās Makwannen has to see the letter before it is sent, the envelope should not be sealed.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 26th day of Ṭeqqemt 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 4 November 1890].

058. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Ankobar 10 November "1890"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

Though I have sent you a letter early enough, there came no reply to me. I do not know whether or not it reached [you]. Or could it be that the Rās has forgotten me? And now, behold Denqu[154] is coming now and I have given him a letter [addressed] to the British government; please do accept it. I have not sealed the letter, as His Majesty told me that it should be sent after Rās Makwannen will have seen it. His Majesty has told me to travel to my home country, and I beg you, my lord, to give the tax and coffee money, for which I had appealed to you, to Monsieur Rimbaud. I think I will not travel without visiting Ḥarargē. I intend to consult with you on many matters. Do not let down your friend, your servant, my lord. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Ankobar on the 2nd day of Ḥedār [= 10 November "1890"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

059. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē
Ankobar 10 November "1890"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my friend, Ato Gabra Śellāsē. How have you[155] indeed been, my brother? I, my wife and children are well, thank God.

Your letter has reached me. May God reward you for all the things. "Why did you not send

153 The pronominal suffix at this point is mistakenly singular while the rest of the context indicates that more than one person was involved in carrying the letter.

154 Probably a palace servant who carried the Imperial letter addressed to Queen Victoria from Šawā to Ḥarargē. He was probably the same as the first Ethiopian post-office director in Derrēdāwā appointed in 1907 and a member of the Ethiopian delegation to Italy in 1919-20. Cf. Ṗāwlos Ñoñño, Dagmawi Aṣe Menilek (Addis Ababā, Yakkātit 1984 YG = February-March 1992) p. 270.

155 Respect form.

me a reply?" you asked. I have difficulty, my friend. We do not hear about when a messenger is sent to you[156]. Nobody tells us. Even now, I am sending [the letter] via Obock. We at Enṭoṭṭo have suffered a great deal this year. The epidemic struck us hard. The children fell ill and recovered with much trouble. My servants fell ill for three months to my disadvantage. Now, the epidemic has subsided. His Majesty is very much worried about not hearing from you[157]. He realized at long last the foregoing intrigue and is infuriated. I cannot relate to you everything, for one can never be sure where a letter ends up. May God bring you for me in safety. Grāzmāč Yosēf is all right. However, he has been very worried. Monsieur Chefneux arrived well with his goods. Monsieur Pino came with a great deal of rifles. Monsieur Brémond, too, has arrived in Ḥarargē. May God enable us to meet again in safety. Amen.

Written in Ankobar on the 2nd day of Ḥedār [= 10 November "1890"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

060. Alfred Ilg to Mašašā Warqē
Ankobar 13 November "1890"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Daǧǧāzmāč Mašašā. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well. My family is all right.

Enṭoṭṭo has suffered this year. The epidemic has struck us hard. Many a poor has perished. Famine, too, has claimed many lives. Grain is two *Qunnā*[158] per Thaler. Today, Enṭoṭṭo is a little better. How are you and your army? We think about you very much. His Majesty mentions you frequently; he praises you. Rās Makwannen had gone down to Ḥarargē, and today he returned to Yettu. Daǧǧāzmāč Śeyyum[159] died of illness. The chief of the palace pages,[160] Ato Habta Māryām[161], and Bālāmbārās Dabāleqo[162] died. Many

156 Plural form.

157 Plural form.

158 A measurement of capacity used for grain in the Amhara regions. Its capacity varied from district to district averaging about five litres. Cf. Richard Pankhurst, "A Preliminary History of Ethiopian Measures, Weights & Values (Part 2)" in: JES 7.2 (1969) pp. 128-31.

159 Son of Rās bitwaddad Gabra Kidān and Wayzaro (later Etēgē) Denqenaš and, hence, nephew of Emperor Yoḥannes IV. After Rās Mangašā Yoḥannes failed to submit, Menilek appointed Śeyyum governor of Tegrāy and war raged between the two. As soon as Mangašā submitted, however, the Emperor committed Śeyyum to confinement in Ḥarar where he died at the age of 30.

160 The term "cenca" actually refers to a group of palace pages of lowest rank. Cf. Joseph Baeteman, Dictionnaire amarigna-français. Suivi d'un vocabulaire Français-Amarigna (Derre Dawa 1929) p. 1199.

161 A minor palace officer who fell victim to the epidemic in 1891. No further information has been available about him.

162 Probably a minor palace official known to Ilg and the addressee, as the writer introduces him without further explanation. No further information has been available about him.

notables recovered after much trouble. Today, the epidemic has subsided, however. ...[163] As for me, I think I will be travelling to our[sic] country. I will send you [word] before I leave. May God enable us to meet in safety.

Written in Ankobar on the 5th day of Ḥedār [= 13 November "1890"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

061. Contract Between Alfred Ilg and Gabrē
Enṭoṭṭo 23 March "1891"

I, Monsieur Ilg, the engineer, have received today six hundred Thalers [600 Thalers][sic] from Ato Gabrē in the town of Enṭoṭṭo with which money I will import from my country *Barnos*, moroccos, and *mātab*[164] silk or else any other items of trade.

Written in Enṭoṭṭo on the 15th day of Maggābit [= 23 March "1891"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

062. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
... 10 April 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been?[165] I, thank God, am well.

I should like you to come now quickly so that we may draw up formally [the document] on the borders of the country to be dispatched abroad.

Given on the 3rd day[166] of Miyāzyā 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 10 April 1891].

163 Here follows a text of eight lines in a strange script. The letters are similar to those reproduced in De Coppet's edition of Menilek's chronicle. Cf Mén, plate between page 158 and 159.

164 A cord of silk or cotton worn around the neck by the Ethiopian Christians as a badge of their religion. Cf. KaneDic p. 249.

165 Lit. "How have you spent the night?" = "Good morning".

166 "Saᶜāt" signifying hour or o'clock in the original is probably a mistake for "qan" = "day".

063. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 April 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. A letter has come from abroad and I should like you to come tomorrow morning if you can. If you are, however, unable [to come], send me a reply in the morning so that I may send the letter to you.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 6th day of Miyāzyā 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 13 April 1891].

064. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 June[167] 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The register with which we assigned components of the cannons to carriers at the time we started out from Maqalē was with you. And now, some components of the cannons are missing, and let it be that you send me the register (if it is still with you) so that We can demand them of the people accordingly. Dağğāč Mašašā has come safely from Tegrē. He related to me everything. They say that the Italians are threatening you. Anything that one knows [in advance] is good, and that is why I am sending you [this message].

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 12th day of Sanē 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 18 June 1891].

065. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 June "1891"

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

You had asked me after my wish so that you could bring it for me from overseas; I

167 Ilg answered this letter on 11 July. Cf. Doc. 66 below.

forgot to tell you before you left. And now, let it be that you bring me shoes fit for me. The shoes which fit me are those with numbers 38 and 39.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 12th day of Sanē [= 18 June "1891"]. [Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.[168]

066. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 11 July 1891

May it reach Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Under the protection of your guardian angel, I have safely reached Ḥarargē. We sojourned long on the way, as the Adāl and the Ḥāwiyā Gāllā troubled us. But now, all the animals[169] of Your Majesty have today arrived safely in Ḥarargē. The letter you wrote me on the 12th day of Sanē [= 18 June] has reached me. May God reward you on my behalf. The letter about the cannon[s] is, however, not with me. I assumed that all arrived in Boru Mēdā and, hence, I have not carefully preserved the letters. I am not even sure whether or not they are in Enṭoṭṭo. If minor appliances are missing, one may find them with Ato Kidāna Wald. I was very pleased to hear of the coming of Dağğāzmāč Mašašā. Above all, you may have found all the information. As he adores you and Ethiopia, do not ignore his advice. Here I found many newspapers. The Italians censure me very much. And when now I arrive home, I will give them the reply. If the Italians hate me, it will not harm me, unless Your Majesty hates me. It is reported in the newspapers that, arriving in Massawa, Monsieur Capucci requested for the two million cartridges left in Asab in order to transport them to His Majesty, they denied him. Monsieur Capucci is also said to have told that Muḥammad Anfari[170] said that he would not conflict with the Italians; he would rather clash with His Majesty if necessary. It is unknown whether it is true or not. In Italy, some demand reconciliation with His Majesty while others demand understanding with Tegrē. But there is none who demands fighting. They say that they have no money today for war. Antonelli reports a great deal of wicked things in the newspaper(s). Monsieur Zimmermann

168 Cf. Mén fig. 40. A variation of this seal is also given in fig. 74.

169 Lit. "horns". It is possible that the Amharic word "qand", which figuratively refers today to cattle, also meant in those days large domestic animals in which case horses, mules and donkeys might be included.

170 = Sultan Muḥammad Ḥānfāri, a significant leader of the ʾAfār in the 19th century. He ruled from ca. 1862-1902. In 1875, he annihilated an Egyptian contingent under the leadership of Werner Munzinger. In the 1880s and 90s, however, he tried to maintain good relations with the Italians and the Ethiopian government at the same time. The latter suspected his loyalty, as he received an Italian flag and a military contingent. A military expedition under the leadership of Rās Walda Giyorgis and Wahni Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq defeated his army and subjugated his territory. But he was reinstated soon thereafter by Menilek with the title of Dağğāzmāč. The Encyclopaedia Africana: Dictionary of African Biography 1-20. 1: Ethiopia-Ghana (New York 1977) p. 84.

has sent several weapons[171]; Monsieur Savouré has transported them as far as Ḥarargē. I have requested Rās Makwannen to store them for me until Monsieur Zimmermann arrives. As for me, I will go down to the coast.[172] May God protect you and your country.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 5th day of Ḥamlē [= 11 July "1891"]. It is rumoured that an abundance of gold is found in Gādābursi.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

067. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Ḥarargē 11 July "1891"

May it reach Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. How have you[173] indeed been?

By the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, I have arrived well in Ḥarargē. The letter you wrote me on 12 Sanē [= 18 June] has reached me. I will find you a pair of good shoes, as you told me. I will bring them with me. I have not found news from the Italians other than propaganda.[174] It is rumoured that they say, "We shall trouble them by cajoling the notables from the side of Tegrē". They had Rās Alulā summoned and promised them[175] five[176] thousand Thalers a year, provisions, firearms and cartridges, but that Rās Alulā refused to cross the Marab. There must have been some intrigue about it so that he had to fear. It is also said that Daǧǧāč Dabbab[177] and Daǧǧāč Sebḥāt[178] coalesced to fight Rās Mangašā[179]. The Italians on the other hand say in the newspapers that Rās

171 The word "massarya" may also be translated with "implements" or "appliances".

172 Lit.: "... go down to the sea". The envoys who plied between the highlands and the sea were referred to in the Menilek era as "Bāḥer Warāǧ". Cf. BTAG p. 79.

173 The original is specifically in the respect form.

174 Lit. "... other than insult".

175 Either a mistake for "him" in the respect form or he was regarded as representing his peers and, hence, the promised gift was intended not only for him.

176 The figure in the original is blurred and cannot be rendered with precision.

177 = Son of Rās Arāyā Śellāsē the elder and hence a cousin of Emperor Yoḥannes IV. He rebelled in the 1880's and took refuge at Massawa. After the death of the Emperor, he tried to bid for power in Tegrāy where he was killed in action in 1891. Cf. ZGSYoh 277; Bairu Tafla, The Political Crisis in Tegray, 1889-1899, in: Africa Rivista Trimestrale di Studi e Documentazione dell'Istituto Italo-Africano 34 No. 1-2 (1979) pp. 109-21.

178 = Daǧǧāzmāč (later Rās) Sebḥāt Aragāwi (ca. 1848-1913), native of ʾAgāma who had joined the Italians in the mid-1890's. He returned to the Emperor shortly before the Battle of ʾAdwā on whose side he fought. He governed his home region until 1913 when he was killed together with two of his sons in a battle with a rival. Cf. CRItEt pp. 18-35, 59-98, 168-170 and passim; RouAW p. 309.

179 = Mangašā Yoḥannes / Mangašā Gugsā ((1868-1906), a nephew of Emperor Yoḥannes IV who nominated him successor to the throne and, hence, referred to as his son. His attempt to accede to the throne as a rival of Menilek failed, but he was able to retain the governorate of his home region until 1899. He died in prison in Ankobar in 1906. Cf. ZGSYoh 284 f.; Gerhard Rohlfs, Meine Mission nach Abessinien. Auf Befehl Sr. Maj. des Deutschen Kaisers unternommen (Leipzig 1883) pp. 292 f.

Mangašā had sent them [word] that he would not desert His Majesty. One cannot distinguish in newspapers between the truth and lie. I will send [you] whatever I find when I arrive home. May God protect you and your country.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 5th day of Ḥamlē [= 11 July "1891"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

068.A. Alfred Ilg to Mašašā Warqē
Ḥarargē 17 July 1891

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. Let it reach Dağğāzmāč Mašašā Warqē. How have you[180] indeed been? I am well by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

I had earlier sent you a letter; I do not know whether it reached [you] or not. Perhaps the Italians have intercepted it; I had sent it via Massawa. And now, when his Majesty sent me word of your safe arrival, I was exceedingly delighted. I was worried about you. All the evil ones had spread the rumour that the "Dağğāzmāč deserted." Because I have served His Majesty as much as I could, today all my enemies pour upon me insults. I will answer them when I go home. I would have loved to meet you before my departure. It did not work out well for me. And now, the Italians probably want to bring me in conflict with His Majesty. Whom do I have besides His Majesty? Let it be that you remain my friend as formerly. My working hard for Ethiopia is not a recent one. It has been so for a long time. Whether I get bread, go hungry, be cold, have nothing - I have not resented the lord I liked and the country I admired. I will not resent them in the future either. If I were interested in money, I could undertake something evil and get it. But I prefer a pure conscience, and that is why I have become the plaything of everybody. Do not forget me, my friend. May God enable us to meet again in safety.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 11th day of Ḥamlē [= 17 July "1891"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

180 The original is specifically in the respect form.

068.B. A Supplementary note[181]

My lord!
I was told further that Hakim Traversi came to Šawā. His Majesty gave Leṭ Mārafiyā to the Geographical Society, and not to the Italian government. How should an appointee of a government reside in Leṭ Mārafiyā? At best, a scientist, a *Dabtarā* or a physician, but one who does not hold a government office or one who draws no salary from a government, may reside there. An official draws a government salary anywhere. Hence, he is of no use to you. Furthermore, he does not write what [his] government dislikes, for he fears. If it is a non-official, he hopes to live on being a custodian of Leṭ Mārafiyā; he hopes to get a salary [for it]. He will be zealous to foster good relations with his Majesty and the country. At the same time, he renders services to the country. Those who were hitherto there brought no new results until today. They were alleged to be physicians, but they treated not a single poor. If one could communicate with the Geographical Society, perhaps a sensible person may be available. Furthermore, His Majesty had promised to give another place in Ǧemmā. I think it is better now if it is delayed. I am imparting this to you, having trusted you and because I love His Majesty and the country. Do what you think fit. You should be careful that our secret be not divulged. A spy is by you.

069. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 17 July 1891

May it reach Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your Majesty! Monsieur Pino and Monsieur Savouré have settled today their dispute through an agreement. According to this agreement, the rifle which has been in the hands of His Majesty and which His Majesty has promised to return is the property of Monsieur Savouré. I beg you to hand it to Monsieur Savouré. Ḥarargē 11 Ḥamlē 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 17 July 1891].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

181 This note was written on a separate sheet of paper and bears no date or signature probably to be on the safe side in case the Italians somehow got hold of it. Ilg was conscious of his position and safety. "Do not show my letter to anyone," he wrote to another official later in the same year, "If you like the letter, take it to heart; if you resent it, burn it. But show it to none."

070. Mašašā Warqē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July[182] "1891"

Sent by Daǧǧāzmāč Mašašā, the Appointee of Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. As to me, I suffered a great deal patiently under the Italians for the sake of my lord, and God enabled me to meet with my lord again in safety. In so far as there is a dispute with the Italians, you, too, should work hard for your lord. As to the Italians, I alone would have challenged them for all their violations if I could get arbitrators from Europe and other countries. Their intrigues are immense. All they did to me, I will write you well in detail in my next letter. I had thought that you and I would meet and that I could relate to you everything. You left and, hence, we could [not] meet. And now, may He enable us see each other with bodily eyes.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Ḥamlē [= 24 July "1891"].
[Seal]: Seal of Mašašā, the Appointee of King of Kings Menilek.[183]

071. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. I have also heard that you arrived in Ḥarargē safely. May God let you reach your home country in safety. Antonelli has published a defamatory article about you in a newspaper, saying: "Monsieur Ilg went to Abyssinia, married a wife and begat many children." Have the story[184] I gave you before you left rewritten well, pass it over through the hands of someone else for all to see and let him be laughed at. Let it be that you bring me hair oil as well as the shoes. Furthermore, let it be that you send me newspapers when you arrive in your home country. Your wife and children are fine; have no worry. May God bring you back in safety and enable us to see each other in bodily eyes.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Ḥamlē 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 24 July 1891].
[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

182 Ilg noted on the original that he answered this letter on 9 September. However, conversion of the given date on the basis of Conti Rossini's Tabelle Comparative gives 8 September. The same applies to docs. 71, 72, 73, 74, 76 and 77 below.

183 This seal is different from that reproduced by de Coppet. Cf. Mén fig. 51.

184 Lit. "Gazette"

072. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July "1891"

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Why have you not written me about your situation? Regarding the piece of land you had exchanged with Azzāž Bazzābeh's[185], he [Bazzābeh] had retracted; I told His Majesty about it and it is now in your hands. You should watch out against the Italians. I fear above all that they might have you killed through poison. Send me newspapers in the French language.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Ḥamlē [= 24 July "1891"].

[Signature]: G. Josep Nigous ...

[Seal]: .... [illegible]

073. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Let it be that you bring me with you samples of tiles for house roofs so that We can have it made here in Our country.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Ḥamlē 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 24 July 1891].

074. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 July 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.[186]

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

185 One of the officials in charge of a section of the royal palace in the late 1880s and early 1890s. He was hardly noticed by the foreigners and scarcely featured in the reminiscences of the old. His assignment apparently concerned primarily the administration of Bulgā, the region which supplied the royal kitchen with grain and spices. He died in late 1907 or early 1908 and was buried at the Śellāsē church of Addis Ababā. Cf. Sergew Habla Śellāsē et al., Ya'amareññā yabeta krestyan mazgaba qalat 1 (Heidelberg 1981 = 1989) p. 257.

186 This seal is partially illegible in the original, but it is obviously the usual Imperial emblem.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you wrote me from Ḥarargē on the 5th day of Ḥamlē [= 11 July] has reached me. May God let you go home in safety and come back in safety and enable us to meet again. When you arrive in your home country, do not stay too long yearning for your kinsmen. Let it be that you come back soon. With regard to yourself, Dağğāč Mašašā told me what the Italians scheme for you. They say that they would intrigue with the English and have you arrested. Even if this fails, I fear that they may poison you through mercenaries. And now, let it be that you watch out carefully so that they might by no means victimize you. I heard all this after you left; if I had heard about it before your departure, however, I would not have let you go.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Ḥamlē 1883 of the Year of Grace [= 24 July 1891].

075. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Djibouti 6 August 1891

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you been indeed?

I arrived in Djibouti safely by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel. I will traverse to Obock tomorrow. I was told that Hakim [physician] Traversi arrived in Zeila. They say that he carries a letter of King Umberto. When I heard this news, I was amazed, for he who had disputed with His Majesty was coming back. As for me, I am going home. When I arrive in my country, I will send a letter. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Djibouti on the 30th day of Ḥamlē [= 6 August "1891"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

076. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 8 September 1891

May it reach Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your Majesty!
Your letter written on the 18th day of Ḥamlē [= 26 July] has reached me. Thank you very

much.[187] I was exceedingly delighted to see so much of your favour toward your servant. As soon as I arrived in Djibouti, I heard that they[188] were waiting for me in Aden or Zeila. The English have befriended the Italians with whom they are in agreement. It is even rumoured that they might offer Zeila to the Italians. They also intrigue a great deal against Your Majesty from the direction of Zeila. It would be good if you could see to it that the chiefs of the Gādâbursi and of the Somâlĕ do not distance themselves from Râs Makwannen. There are also schemers in Ḥarar. Tell Râs Makwannen to watch out. There are dangerous spies there. I have met without difficulty with the French ministers. I have told them that I have had no letter of His Majesty. But I have told them that Your Majesty expressed in the letter sent today the hope of receiving a reply about the boundary question. When they told me that, "The Italians tell about His Majesty being a tergiversator befriending himself today with Italy, tomorrow with France, after tomorrow with England, in order to obtain money." I said to them that all this was false. I told them: "His Majesty is not short of money. When the powers sent him presents, he did not judge them by their value.[189] He corresponded with European governments believing that it would facilitate everything, as they are Christian governments; but not because he was in distress. When all powers became [his] neighbours, he thought of developing commerce, work and country; but he strove by no means to be tributary to another power." When they said to me, "The Italians tell that he [Menilek] dispatched a boundary letter to all governments, as Ethiopia sought hostilities with all states," I told them: "It is not so! His Majesty sent [the circular] to avert any conflict with other states. The boundaries of Ethiopia are until today unrecognized.[190] The European states have partitioned the whole of Africa. There is none like Ethiopia, and Ethiopia existed for two thousand years before Africa's name was known in Europe. How can His Majesty look on quietly when all the surrounding countries are being occupied, and flags being hoisted everywhere. It would have been proper to propose an agreement to demarcate the boundaries; but should one take a country at will relying on one's own might?" When they heard this, the French ministers were exceedingly happy. They were of the impression that Your Majesty would act according to the wish of the Italians.[191] The Italians would appreciate it if Your Majesty disputed with all governments. Furthermore, they showed me a treaty[192] which the great Negus Šāḥla Šellāsē[193] had concluded with the French king, the great Louis Philippe[194] - king of France - forty years ago today. I have copied it in case it is not in the possession of Your Majesty. Scrutinize

187 Lit.: "May God reward you very much on my behalf".
188 Unspecified. The pronoun refers perhaps to British officials whom Ilg was supposed to meet on behalf of the Emperor.
189 Lit.: "He did not regard it [them] as money."
190 The term used in the original may also be translated as "unknown" or "undefined".
191 Lit.: "... would do what the Italians would order."
192 A fraudulent document concocted by Rochet d'Héricourt in 1843. For an analysis of it, see Sven Rubenson, The Survival of Ethiopian Independence (London 1976) pp. 159-163.
193 King of Šawā, 1813-1347, and paternal grandfather of Menilek II.
194 1773-1850. King of France, 1830-1848.

this treaty very very well. It is a very serious matter. [Else] they would not have preserved it like[195] that in a chest for forty years until today. The first part[196] is a very important thing for Your Majesty. With regard to trade, no Frenchman has so far caused a problem; they never came up to buy[197] land. A piece of land purchased in Ethiopia is not referred to as French. It only says that your Majesty protect[198] it. As to protection, Your Majesty protects even that of any poor [person] let alone that of one who would come from afar. When I asked them about annexing Djibouti, they told me: "It is very difficult for us. If we hand it over to His Majesty, another power may penetrate it the next day, as[199] provisions, war ships and soldiers are necessary. As to firearms, do not worry as long as we are there.[200] We have not hampered the [import] until this day; we do not intend to hamper [import] from now onward either. Even if His Majesty possesses an area at the coast, it is not difficult for a power with a navy to impede the import of weapons." I dared writing all this to Your Majesty, because I adore you and your country. Bear with me, Your Majesty. I am telling you from the depth of my heart.[201] May God protect you and your country for my sake.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 4th day of Ṗāgumē[n] [= 8 September "1891"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

077. Alfred Ilg to Mašašā Warqē
Zurich 8 September "1891"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Daǧǧāzmāč Mašašā. My lord! How have you indeed been?

I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, have arrived safely in my country. After my arrival, however, I fell ill. But I am now better. Your letter written on the 18th day of Ḥamlē [= 24 July] has reached me safely. I was exceedingly happy. You did not believe it when you were told in advance.[202] You made Antonelli a close friend. You made us all weep. If I were avaricious, what His Majesty gives me would

195 Lit.: "silently".

196 It can also be translated by "the first article".

197 As it stands, it can also be translated by "to rule". But since it is followed by "maret" and not "agar", I opted for the likely sense.

198 Lit.: "guards".

199 Lit.: "otherwise".

200 Alt.: This may be translated as, "... as long as we live."

201 Lit.: "... from my good heart."

202 Alternative: "It did not seem to you true when it was told to you before." In this statement, "you" is in the respect form, whereas in the subsequent sentences (excepting the last one), the pronouns of the second person are in the plural. Thus, the criticism and entreating are directed to the officials or the government in general.

not satisfy me.[203] But I am not a tergiversator; I adhere to my good lord and I live with a good name. I had heard the intrigues of the Italians well in advance. But God safeguards me. And now, I have heard that Hakim [physician] Traversi has gone up [to you]. Why did they send him? Why do you accept him? Having insulted, he left. He cannot come back for something good. Please my lord, let the medicine chest not go out of your hands. Watch out! From now on, I shall not touch a chest touched by another person. It is alleged that the English and the Italians have reached an agreement by which Zeila would pass into the hands of Italy. [They say]: "We shall give it to His Majesty if he favours Article Seventeen, or if His Majesty accepts Italian protectorate over Zeila and Ḥarar." Be careful, please! May God save you this time. God knows for the next time. The French think well about you. They do not like it when other powers intrigue against you. "Ethiopia is better for us," they say. Whatever happens, I hear it from here; but nothing is written to me by you. Please write me. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Zurich on the 4th day of Ṗāgumē[n] [= 8 September "1891"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

078. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Zurich 11 September 1891

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you been indeed?

By the grace of God, I have reached my home safely. I met Monseur Lagarde[204] in France. We talked about all things. I think the Djibouti case is, however, unsuccessful. I suppose it is better if you go down and discuss it face to face.[205] It cannot be accomplished through correspondence. It would [also] be good if you could let all the boundaries be demarcated. [Saying] tomorrow and after tomorrow - the custom of your land - upsets rather than promotes affairs.[206] I was pleased when you sent me a letter. I will send you any news I find. However, do not show my letter to anyone. If you like the letter, take it to heart; if you resent it, burn it. But show it to none. I have suffered a great deal on account of your[207] - His Majesty's - concern. Nobody feels pity for me. May God let us meet again in safety.

203 Lit.: "... would not be sufficient".
204 = A.M.J. Léonce Lagarde (1860-1936), a French career diplomat and colonial official who administered Obok/Djibouti in the years 1884-98 and represented his country in Ethiopia as envoy plenipotentiary and minister to the Ethiopian court. He fostered good relations with most of the Ethiopian authorities and particularly with Emperor Menilek, Rās Makwannen and Bitwaddad Ilg. Cf. G. Angoulvant and S. Vignéras, Djibouti, Mer Rouge, Abyssinie (Paris 1902) pp. 206 f.; LoepIlg p. 188.
205 Lit.: "... meet mouth to mouth".
206 Lit.: "Tomorrow and after tomorrow in accordance with your land upsets rather than promotes affairs."
207 In the plural form.

Written in Zurich on the day of [St.] John of Maskaram 1884 [= 11 September 1891]. [Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

079. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 13 September 1891

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

Why have you not sent me [word] until now about your safe arrival at the coast? And now, send me [news] about your situation. Do not worry about your children and house. They are all well. Do not delay; let it be that you come back soon.

Written in the town of Enṭoṭṭo on the 3rd day of Maskaram 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 13 September 1891].

080. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 14 September[208] 1891

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. The concern of Monsieur Chefneux, too, has been successful. We have heard [news] of your safe arrival in Djibouti. Send me [news] about your situation and news of Europe when you arrive in your home country. One tells us that Dr. Traversi has arrived in Ḥarar. "We will send him back when he comes to Enṭoṭṭo," said his Majesty. News was sent to His Majesty which says that Italy has requested the European powers for permission to war with Ethiopia. Send us word about the truth of this news. Bring with you the things Monsieur Chefneux will buy for me. It would be good if you could come soon. Here is news of our country: The Tegroč will come up to Boru Mēdā, and His Majesty will go [there] to have the church of Gešēn built and to receive in audience the Tegroč. It seems that he will crown Rās Mangašā. The Tegroč have made peace among themselves and are united. Dabbab and Dağğāč Sebḥāt have reconciled themselves with Rās Mangašā. The Turk-bāššā of Rās Mangašā had come to deliver the request to let them fight the Italians. And

208 Ilg has noted that he answered this letter on 10 December, but the copy of the document could not be located.

His Majesty sent [message] saying: "Hitherto We have waited for the conflict to be definite. From now on, attack them hard." Rās Zawdē and Rās Walē conflicted with each other; Rās Zawdē rebelled. An armed force was sent: Rās Mikāᶜēl, Rās Mangašā,[209] Žānṭrār Asaffāw,[210] Daǧǧāč Waldē and others are gone [on the expedition]. Rās Zawdē on the other hand has sent word that he did not rebel. His Majesty sent him word to submit. The definite result is not yet known. Neguś Takla Haymanot finished Kafā and has arrived in the *Šānqellā* [country]. Daǧǧāč Walda Giyorgis collects the tributes of Kontā and Kullo. This is the news of our country. Damessē and Tasammā went down to Addis Ababā to see His Majesty.[211] When they were offered to eat Enǧerā, they refused, as a result they quarrelled with Her Majesty. They were reconciled: they carried stones and begged for forgiveness. At home,[212] they tasted a little of the whip until they promised to eat. His Majesty gave them ten *Dāwellā* of fine and mediocre qualities of Tef[213] for their provisions. Bulgā has been eaten by locusts. With regard to your piece of land, I have clarified it with Azzāž Bazzābeh before His Majesty. All the products of your land are good, if you only come safely. Do not worry about your children; I am there for them. May God enable us to meet again in safety.[214]

Written at Enṭoṭṭo on the 4th day of Maskaram 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 14 September 1891].

G. Joseph Negoussie

[Seal]: Grāzmāč Yosēf
Grasmac Jusef

081. Walda Ṣādeq & Robā to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 16 "September" 1891

May it reach my lord - my father, he who takes care of me, he whom God gave me secretly, my father - Monsieusr Ilg. My lord, I bow before you many many times wishing that He

209 = Rās bitwaddad Mangašā Atikam, native of Dāmot and one of the oldest officers of Menilek II. He commanded the Gondarē regiment in the 1870s and subsequently governed Gedem and Ēfrātā, Sāynt, Dāmot and Bagēmeder respectively. He was reputed as one of the state councillors. He died in Addis Ababā in 1910. Cf. PÑMen pp. 392 f.

210 Probably a mistake for Asfāw, a notable of Ambāssal to which he was appointed governor in the spring of 1889. Cf. Mén p. 260. He was probably the same as the son-in-law of Rās (later Neguś) Mikāᶜēl of Wallo and, hence, the father of Empress Manan.

211 Damessē and Tasammā were either the sons or young servants of Ilg. In a couple of letters, Ilg's former wife, Walatta Māryām, referred to them as "the children".

212 This phrase may also be translated as, "inside the house".

213 The Amharic term is not clear in the original. It may be read "edaf" which may signify the quality rather than the type of the grain, in which case it is not specified what type of grain they received.

214 Ilg noted on the top right side of the second page of the original "Joseph 4/9," but its significance is obscure. If the numbers refer to the date of the letter, then Ilg has confused the Gregorian and Ethiopian dates.

give you health. How have you indeed been throughout the rainy season?

I was very sorry when I heard of your illness. But when I heard of your recovery, I was very delighted imagining that you were resurrected like Christ. My lord, the precious letter you wrote me has reached me. When I received it, I imagined that I met you.

Now my lord, news of our country: The children are well. I enquired [after them] from someone who came from our neighbourhood. His Majesty has led an expedition to Boru Mēdā. Rās Zawdā had rebelled; Rās Asas[215] took him captive. Rās Makwannen and Rās Dārgē[216] are staying at Enṭoṭṭo. The army of Rās Dārgē came to Šawā from Arusi. As to me, I was ill and consequently remained here at the time Monsieur Zimmermann went up [to Šawā]. One of the mules, the male one, died of illness at Morat.

My lord, we have suffered waiting for you. They give us our remuneration late after the month is passed; in fact, it is with much ado that they give it to us. You know the habit of our country: nothing happens without bribery. However, we are short of money to bribe. The money you gave us is finished, as we purchased [provisions] with it. Taklē has gone up [to the highlands] with Monsieur Savouré. Walda Māryām is gone to the house of Abuna Yā'eqob[217]. If you are coming soon, write a letter on our behalf to the agents in Djibouti and Ḥarargē that we are coming. Monsieur Zimmermann arrived in Šawā safely.

Say your servants, Walda Ṣādeq and Robā. Written in the town of Ḥarargē on the 6th day after the month began in the year of the Evangelist John 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 16 "September" 1891].

082. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 November "1891"

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 4th day of Ṗāgumēn [= 8 September] has reached me. May God praise you for writing me all the news. It would not have been so bad if Count Antonelli

215 This must be a mistake for Rās Walē.

216 ca. 1820-1900; son of Negus Śāḥla Śellāsē and, hence, a paternal uncle of Menilek II with whom he was on excellent terms. After his release from Maqdalā, he governed Bulgā for about three years and then moved to Salālē which he governed until his death. In 1876-77 and 1886-87, he campaigned in Marhabētē and Arsi respectively. He acted as one of the major state councillors and guardian of the Imperial capital in the absence of his royal nephew. Cf. Gustavo Bianchi, Alla Terra dei Galla. Narrazione della Spedizione Bianchi in Africa nel 1879-80 (Milan 1884) pp. 493-99; Mén pp. 78, 83, 93 f., 99 and passim; BTDārgē pp. 17-37.

217 = Mgr. Taurin de Cahagne (1826-99), the successor of Mgr. Massajah in the leadership of the Catholic mission in southern Ethiopia. His main seat was Ḥarar. The house referred to is probably the mission, and not necessarily his personal residence. Cf. Mén p. 582; Henri d'Orléans, Une Visite à l'Empereur Ménélick. Notes et Impressions de Route (Paris 1898) p. 74; ZGSYoh pp. 275 f. See also doc. 275 below.

spreads the news that Monsieur Ilg has a wife and children in the land of Ethiopia. He wishes to create discord between all the Europeans and His Majesty. With regard to your statement, "He defamed my name saying that he [Ilg] is on the pay of the French and the English," he could not slander you for having children, for he does know well that he himself has two children whom he abandoned in the land of Šawā without relations or refuge. It is typical for an enraged and defeated enemy to look for something with which he can anger [others]. The whole world knows your innocence. The truth and the daybreak become brighter gradually and, hence, you should not be disturbed by this. I also heard of your illness. May God let you recover. Do not worry about us losing our country; even if the English and the Italians threaten us through their intrigues, We shall not surrender Our country out of fear of them. I hope that our country, which We by the might of God have so far held in Our hands, will not come out of Our hands. You know that We are anxious to get the plough-machine quickly. Do your best, for I am thinking about it mornings and evenings.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 4th day of Ḥedār [= 13 November "1891].
[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu Beṭul, Light of Ethiopia

083. Yosēf Negusē to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 13 November 1891

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 9th day of Maskaram [= 19 September] has reached me. I have related to His Majesty all the messages you had sent. I was very sorry to hear that you were ill. I was very much surprised when you sent me the news that Count Antonelli published defamatory things about His Majesty, Her Majesty, you and myself in the newspapers. Never mind if he writes about you and me. It is madness that he who begat and abandoned two children in the land of Šawā should slander His Majesty. However, a person who has despaired speaks a great deal. Dr. Traversi has come and is staying at Leṭ Mārafiyā. Now, His Majesty has told him that he will carry a reply to the letter which he brought from Italy. But I do not think there will be an agreement between them. I am also not pleased with the French tendency. They want to claim as far as Ērar. Monsieur Chefneux can perhaps settle it, for we have settled his matter and sent him about it. It is otherwise like escaping out of a hyena den and falling into a hyena den. As to Antonelli's affair, take vengeance on him to my pleasure through a newspaper, if possible. We have sent Monsieur Lagarde a ribbon of honour and a well-written letter[218]. I forwarded the case of Moussaia to His Majesty. His Majesty told me: "Makwannen had already sent me word.

218 This phrase may be a description for a diploma accompanying the order.

He says that it is he [Moussaia] who reports to us the matters of the English". Hence, I do not think that they will separate from each other. News of our country: Rās Zawdā rebelled, fought Rās Walē and Rās Mikāᶜēl, was defeated and fled to the Dervishes. Abbā Ǧabal[219] died. Neguś Takla Haymanot fell ill and returned from Kafā, as his son, Rās Bazzābeh[220], poisoned him. The priest who administered the poison was hanged. We are told that the Tegroč received a thousand rifles from the Italians and made peace with them. Everything is all right with us here. An epidemic exterminated Ankobar and the highlands. We shall travel to Boru Mēdā on the 12th day of Ḥedār [= 21 November]. News of the arrest of Rās Zawdē was reported on the 4th day of Ḥedār [= 13 November].[221] Ligābā Sarāwitu[222] sends his greetings and requests that you bring him with you a fine velvet which has never before been seen in the land of Abyssinia for a *Qamis*. He said he would pay whatever price you demand which he will prepare in advance. Do not forget it. Bring me all the things Monsieur Chefneux will buy for me: 100 Winchester bullets, a good silver watch, an horloge watch, a writing pad similar to what you had formerly given me, a small and a large pocket knives, a bale of quality black *tubit*[223] of cloth for *Qamis* and gown, two pairs of large scissors, a small pair of scissors, four blades, black and white threads for a sewing-machine. I have planned something, and let it be that you bring me with you an arrack-producing machine along with its aniseed extracts even if it costs 100 Thalers. Today, *Filāwi*[224] and *samay Arab*[225] are rare in Šawā and you should bring with you a lot of them. *Ǧāwwē*[226] is also not to be found in the country. Various types of silk have also disappeared. Buy also a good carpet. I am saying this, because I think all other things will be depleted through begging. Do not worry about your children and wife. They are all right. May God enable us to meet in safety.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 4th day of Ḥedār 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 13 November 1891].

[Seal]: Grāzmāč Yosēf

Grasmac Jusef

219 Son of Abbā Wāṭo of Wallo and maternal uncle of Abāta Bwāyālaw. His father was the godson of Menilek II and, hence, Dağğāzmāč Abbā Ǧabal was regarded as close to the royal family. He was a rival of Rās Mikāᶜēl who outwitted him by marrying a daughter of the Emperor. Shortly after his death, it was revealed that he was a would-be accomplice of Mašašā Warqē in the treasonous plot of 1893. Ilg papers.

220 Eldest son of Neguś Takla Haymanot of Goğğām. Like the rest of his brothers, he was frequently in conflict with his father, though he governed small regions within his domain. He married a granddaughter of Menilek (Zannabawarq) and he was suspected to have a hand in her early death. He died in the prison of Afqarā in 1905. HWSBiog p. 27; MSEthCul p. 229.

221 Ilg noted at this point of the original, "Joseph 24/11," but its significance is obscure.

222 A military liaison officer in the palace. He was said to be the first to bear the title of Ligābā in Šawā. Cf. Mén pp. 271 f.; HWSBiog p. 17.

223 "strip of cloth, usually black, which is sewn over the colored stripe of the näṭäla-shawl during mourning; a black band around the sleeve of a garment indicating that the wearer is in mourning." KaneDic 976.

224 "Tanned, dyed goatskin used for binding books or making sword scabbards." KaneDic p. 2261.

225 This phrase is not entered in the dictionaries as such, but it is probably the same as *Filāwi* or *Baher Arab* = Moroccan leather, in this case dyed in blue.

226 Also Gawwi: "red cotton sheeting, often used for covering mäsob baskets." KaneDic p. 1870.

084. Mašašā Warqē to Alfred Ilg
Alēltu Camp 1 December[227] 1891

Sent by Dağğäzmäč Mašašā. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How are you? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter and advice reached me. We, too, will not break your advice. Rās Zawdē had rebelled; he is taken captive. Ethiopia lives in peace and unity. We are [now] going to Boru Mēdā. I will write you about everything from there.

Written at Alēltu Camp on the 22nd day of Ḥedār 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 1 December 1891].

[Seal]: Seal of Mašašā, the Appointee of Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

085. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 11 December 1891

May it reach Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your Majesty,

how have you indeed been?[228] I, thank God, am well. Your letter written on the 3rd of Maskaram [= 13 September] has reached me. Thank you.[229] I have been exceedingly delighted and thankful to hear that you cared for and enquired after my children and house. I had no doubt that my children would ever suffer poverty as long as His Majesty were alive.

Your Majesty,

I have not stopped until now inquiring after the agricultural machine. So far I have not been successful, as the prices are too high. I have now written an inquiry elsewhere. When I receive a reply, I will write Your Majesty a definite answer. May God preserve on my behalf Your Majesty and your country.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Tāḫśāś 1884 [= 11 December 1891].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

227 Ilg noted that he answered this letter on 9 [10] March [1892]. Cf. Doc 88 below.

228 Lit.: "How have you indeed spent the rainy season?"

229 Lit.: "May God reward you for it on my behalf."

086. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 11 December "1891"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I had hoped you would write[230] me a letter. There came none.[231]
And now, if a compatriot of mine by the name of Großmann[232] comes to you, beware. If he claims to have discussed [anything] and has reached an understanding with Monsieur Ilg, do not credit it. I have found no truth in his talk. He has no other intention than to create confusion. May God preserve you and your governorate and let us meet again in safety.

Written on the 2nd day of Tāḥśāś in the city of Zurich [= 11 December "1891"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

087. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Giyorgis
Zurich 11 December 1891

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my friend, Leǧ Gabra Giyorgis[233]. My friend, how have you indeed been healthwise since we parted? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 4th day of Maskaram [= 14 September] has reached me. I was pleased that you thought of me [and undertook] this important thing. I have not, however, been very successful in the matter, though I am still striving. Give my best regards to all my friends. May He enable us to meet again in life.[234] Amen.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Tāḥśāś 1884 [= 11 December 1891].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

230 Lit.: "send".
231 Lit.: "It did not reach me to my favour".
232 There is no indication whether this person ever reached Ethiopia and what his intentions could have been.
233 This was probably the same as the palace official by the same name who bore the title of Qañňāzmāč some years later. Cf. PÑMen pp. 493 f.
234 "Ayna heywat" is an unusual expression which, if not a mistake, must have been a predecessor of "ayna sega". This letter was probably written by the Ethiopian who accompanied Ilg to Switzerland, as the usual linguistic mistakes of the latter do not occur here.

088. Alfred Ilg to Mašašā Warqē
Zurich 10 March 1892

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Mašašā Warqē. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the Alēltu camp has reached me. May God reward you on my behalf. I was saddened to hear the news of Rās Mangašā's desertion. Ethiopia seeks its own destruction.[235] It is alleged that it was the Italians who induced him to desertion. They say that King Umberto sends letters to Rās Mangašā. Just as they formerly interfered between Emperor Yoḥannes and King Menilek, so they wish by way of revenge [to interfere] between Emperor Menilek and Rās Mangašā. They assume[236] that the Ethiopians, being ignorant, will succumb [to outsiders]. Let God reconcile them. One also says in Europe as follows: "If they thus desert one another daily, how can they conform with us! Who can trust them? Though they see how their country is being devastated by human diseases and rinderpest and the locusts consume the grain, they desert one another. What country, what security could be found!" This is what is spoken in Europe. The French government accepted with pleasure the presents[?] and decorations from His Majesty, and now it is said that they will be sending a proper reply. The French cabinet has changed. Minister Ribot[237] has, however, not been replaced. Minister Rudini[238] invited me to Rome. But I did not go, as I suspected that His Majesty might not be pleased with it. It is alleged that His Majesty received Hakim [physician] Traversi very well. They say that their friendship has been strengthened. As for me, I have not received even a shred of news from Šawā. I suppose they all have forgotten me. And now, I will depart from here in Genbot[239]. May God let us meet again in safety. Amen.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Maggābit 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 10 March 1892].

[Not Signed].

235 This sentence is rather vague in the original and may as well be translated: "An Ethiopian seeks his own destruction."

236 A verb of this sort is missing from the original.

237 = Alexandre Ribot, French foreign minister in the 1890s.

238 = Antonio Starabba Marchese di Rudini (1839-1908), born at Palermo; played active politics in Naples and elsewhere; 1890, vice-chairman of the parliament; February 1891, replaced Crispi as prime minister and included the foreign ministry; he himself was replaced by Giolitti in May 1892. Replaced Crispi again in March 1896 and brought about the peace treaty with Ethiopia in October 1896. Lost the office again after May 1898. He died in Rome in August 1908. Cf. Brockhaus 1908, vol. 14. p. 3.

239 = May-June.

089. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
... 14 March "1892"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been, my brother? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent me has reached me. The reason why I have not sent you [a letter] until now is that I had gone up to Enṭoṭṭo. I have understood the message you sent me. I agree; I will be as you advise me. At this end, your wife and children at Enṭoṭṭo are well. There is nothing to worry about. Do not be disappointed with me on account of my delay to write to you. Let it be that you send me news of everything. I will reach Ḥarargē within a few days. May God enable us to meet in life.

Written on the 6th day of Maggābit [= 14 March "1892"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

090. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 12 April "1892"

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you spent the rainy season? We, thank God, are well. But we are yearning after you.

An epidemic has broken out in the country. However, it is not frightening. The letter you wrote me in Yakkātit[240] has reached me. I would be very happy if you could come for my sake soon. The administration of the household is nearly killing me. The proxy you appointed over Abbu consumed the money you gave him for seeds and has neither cultivated nor did he let others cultivate; when I required it of him, he retorted saying that he was not my servant. Furthermore, our proxy at Qāzimā sold our farm products and wasted our grain before[241] us. An opponent sued him and he lost the case. I evicted both of them. I handed over the things of Count Salimbeni to Hakim Traversi. Monsieur Ambasalal[242] demanded all his cows. I gave him all. Addis Ababā, the capital of His Majesty, burnt down. As to the epidemic, forget us not. The *sāl*[243] disease killed Rāhmato. Some of the tenants of Aybamba[244] are gone into exile; others died of famine. The few that remained are incapable of working. That which has been ploughed with our oxen has become useless[245]. Locusts and grasshoppers devoured it. So far,

240 = 8.2.-8.3.1892.

241 I.e. in front of us or before our very eyes.

242 This person could not be identified. The name has probably been distorted beyond recognition.

243 Lit.: "strong coughing". Bronchitis, pulmonary tuberculosis or other infections accompanied by coughing were popularly referred to by this term.

244 = Ayeb Ambā below Ankobar.

245 Lit.: "... is unblessed".

however, we are not stricken by famine. Nothing will be lacking; we only pray that He may bring you here safely for us. May God enable us to meet again in life.
Written in the town of Enṭoṭṭo on the 5th of Miyāzyā [= 12 April "1892"] says Wayzaro Walatta Māryām.

091. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Čarčar 16 April 1892

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Here I am back in Ḥarargē. The following unexpected thing has happened, and I am writing it to you so that you may know about it: fire started at the house of a soldier and (excepting the chapel and a house) burnt all the houses of Addis Ababā including that of His Majesty. No articles are left. All the watches Monsieur Zimmermann had brought were there; all were burnt. When His Majesty was in Addis Ababā, everything was all right. But the epidemic spread [to the city] and ravaged the people. He [Menilek] started out from there and spent a couple of nights at Yakkā. From there he went to the upper town and a kind of quarantine was enforced. The epidemic has not yet abated. It still kills sporadically. As to Ḥarar, no people have survived there. All perished. Your children and wife are all right. I used to see them when they occasionally came. Write me when you intend to come as well as about overseas news. I entreat with you, my brother. May God let us see each other in life.

Written at Čarčar on the 9th day of Miyāzyā 1884 [= 16 April 1892].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

092. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 22 April "1892"

May it reach the master, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? We, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, are well so far.

I am very sad that your letters are wanting; I am shocked. And now, the epidemic of our country is becoming fiercer. Seeing the fear of the people, it seems to us that we will not be spared either. However, God is gracious; He knows. May God enable us to meet eye to eye in life. Says Walatta Māryām.

Written in the town of Enṭoṭṭo, on the 15th day after the month of Miyāzyā began [= 22 "1892"].

093. Gabra Śellāsē Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 25 April "1892"

May it reach my lord, father, friend, brother, Monsieur Ilg. I send you my greetings with great friendship and nostalgia. I am well.

At that time I went down to Awsā. Six months later, I came back and entered Dāwwi. I stayed in Dāwwi for five months. The ammunition (about a million) which was in Awsā has been wholly brought in except for twenty[246] thousand or so which were lost. The cholera ravaged about a thousand people in Dāwwi, and today it has spread to Menǧār, Č̣orrē, Adā, Addis Ababā and Enṭoṭṭo. His Majesty left Enṭoṭṭo and moved to Dabra Berhan. His Majesty is considering sending me to Ḥarargē. But this is not my wish. Today the epidemic has spread all over the country, and it is not my wish to leave my abode. I live in Abo Musā. One day I was obliged to go to Enṭoṭṭo to see His Majesty. Then I came [here] one evening to see your household, Monsieur Zimmermann and Monsieur Appenzeller. I spent the night with your son, Tasammā. When I asked your compatriots after [your] news, they told me that there was no new letter. I have written you this letter when I was told that your servants were going down [to the coast]. Please Sir, do not come via Ḥarar; they say that the epidemic is raging there. Take the Ērar road. If you find the Adāl route too troublesome, send [word] to the Azzāž requesting that Gabraśellāsē should meet you. I will come to meet you along with some men. The epidemy is raging everywhere; take care. Here your village and Māryām Dudā are safe. So far, we, the relations, are all well. We are concerned about you. May God bring you among your children and friends in safety. Amen. My friend, do not worry too much. Come to your children quickly.

Written at the house of Monsieur Ilg on the 18th day of Miyāzyā [= 24 April "1892"].
Neguśē Gabraśellāsē [sic.].
[Signature]: Geubresselassé [sic.]

094. Walatta Māryām to Alfred Ilg
Enṭoṭṭo 8 May "1892"

May it reach the master, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? How have you spent the rainy[247]

246 The Ethiopic term "elf" is vague in its application in various sources. It can refer to a thousand and ten thousand. Cf. Bairu Tafla, Some Notes on Numerical Idioms Recurring in Ethiopian History = Afrika und Übersee 70 (1987) p. 75.

247 This expression is usually used in the months of September and October which follow the big rainy season. Here it is either misused or Ilg's wife employed it deliberately to imply that her husband was already well over a year abroad.

season? We, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, are well.

The epidemic has subsided. His Majesty fled[248] to Ankobar. After his flight, Enṭoṭṭo became healthier. The epidemic, too, fled with him. Where they went, however, it exterminates [people]. Now only you are as far from us as the sky. We are longing for you.[249] Longing! And now I pray the Lord so that He may enable us to meet again in life.

Written in the town of Enṭoṭṭo on the 1st of Genbot [= 8 May "1892"]. Says Walatta Māryām.

095. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg
Ankobar 1 June 1892

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How are you? We, thank God, are well. Your children, wife and household are all well.

Why have you not sent us (me?) a letter when you dispatched a letter to His Majesty.[250] Have all the letters we sent not reached you? We are very worried, as we have no news of you. Cholera broke out in Šawā and ravaged many people. Many of the goods Monsieur Zimmermann had brought were burnt. On account of the intensity of the epidemic, work could not begin, and we, having fled along with His Majesty, are staying in Ankobar. Enquire and let me know about the reason for Dr. Traversi's mission and whether or not it has been a success. Enquire after the activities of the Europeans in Massawa and let me know. Enquire after the friendship and conflict between Antonelli and Dr. Traversi and let me know about it. Send me news whether the affair of Monsieur Chefneux has been a success. In case he remains there, let it be that you receive from him a thing he had promised to send me and a thing which Wayzaro Yawarqwuha had given him and bring them along for me. If you are not coming soon, send me a letter. I will send you all the news. Send me [information] about the intentions of the French. The Russians, too, are participating in the mission and please do let me know what they are doing. May God let us meet in the life of the flesh.

Written in the town of Ankobar on the 25th day of Genbot 1884 of the Year of Grace [= 1 June 1892].

[Seal]: Grasmac Jùsef

248 Grāzmāč Yosēf also used a similar expression for this event. Cf. doc. No. 83.

249 Lit.: "We thirst for you as we would for water".

250 This sentence may also be rendered as follows: "You sent a letter to His Majesty, but why not to us as well?"

096. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Paris 22 July 1892

May it reach the venerated and supreme Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, by the grace of God and by the grace of Your Majesty's guardian angel, am well.

Hurrah, Your Majesty! The French President is sending Your Majesty a decoration of honour due only to great sovereigns. It is called "Grand Cordon de la légion d'honneur". Furthermore, he has sent a second decoration for Rās Makwannen, an award due to princes and which is known as, "Grande croix de la légion d'honneur". The order will be sent together with a fine ribbon[251] to His Majesty. Rejoice, Your Majesty, and forget not your servant who laboured a great deal on behalf of Your Majesty. When His Majesty failed to send even a single letter, it seemed to me that His Majesty disfavoured me. I only laboured and never committed anything bad.[252] Behold I am coming. I will at least see your face[253] and hear my mistakes [named], if Your Majesty has disfavoured me. If I make a mistake, it is not out of evil intention.[254] I toiled, because I adored Your Majesty and your country. May God let us only meet again with Your Majesty in safety. And now, I have another thing in mind.[255] It is alleged that Your Majesty is well disposed toward the Italian government. They say that Monsieur Traversi has come back with a splendid letter of Your Majesty, and that he would soon leave with the Italian reply. It is fine if Your Majesty harmonizes with Italy. But I think it is not good if Your Majesty decides to accept, or to be quiet about, Article Seventeen. I have so far insisted, as Your Majesty had instructed me, that the Ethiopian King of Kings will not in any circumstance be subservient to another power. God has until this day safeguarded Ethiopia. Also after this day, God will preserve it. If you dislike my advice, be not angry with me. Cholera spread in Djibouti, and the head of Obock and physician, Aubry, died.[256] May God safeguard my servants. Behold I am departing, provided that the epidemic lets me through Obock or Djibouti. May God safeguard Your Majesty, Her Majesty, your court and your country for my sake. Amen.

Written in the city of Paris on the 16th day of Ḥamlē 1884 [= 22 July 1892].

Your Majesty's servant,

Monsieur Ilg.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

251 The word "mattaya" is not entered in any of the Amharic dictionaries in this sense.

252 Lit.: "Excepting my labouring, I have never done anything bad."

253 Lit.: "eyes."

254 Lit.: "... out of bad heart".

255 Lit.: "... something in my heart".

256 This statement is vague. It seems that the last part of the line has been erased. As it stands, it can as well be translated: "the head of Obok and the physician, Aubry, died."

097. Léonce Lagarde to Tasammā Nādaw
Paris 14 August "1892"

Sent by Monsieur Lagarde, the Duke of Enṭoṭṭo. May it reach my venerated friend, Dağğāč Tasammā[257]. How have you been with regard to your health? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me; I am pleased with your thoughtfulness. Thank you for taking care of the people and for the token of friendship you sent me. I shall be coming to Addis Ababā. I hope, God willing, we shall meet and converse with each other.

Written in Paris on 9 Naḥasē [= 14 August "1892"].

[Seal]: ... [illegible]

098. Zawga to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 8 January "1893"[?]

May it reach my lord, the honourable and chosen Monsieur Ilg. I bow [before you] wishing that He give you health.

When Ato Ayyala or Ato Walda Māryām who was your page approaches you with this letter, give [him] those nine boxes of Sneider rifles, my lord.

Written in Ḥarargē on 30th Tāḥśāś [= 8 January "1893"?].

Your servant, Zawga.

[Seal]: Zawga; Zawga.

099. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā^{c}ēl
Addis Ababā 7 August 1893

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. I, thank God, am well under the protection of your guardian angel.

We have finished[258] His Majest's palace. His Majesty is delighted. All the people

257 = Dağğāzmāč (later Rās bitwaddad) Tasammā Nādaw, son of Dağğāzmāč Nādaw who was one of the most influential courtiers in the early Menilek era. Tasammā conquered Illubābor which he governed until his death in 1911. He also participated in the expeditions of Awsā in 1896 and that of the White Nile in 1898. In 1909 Menilek appointed him regent to his grandson and successor to the throne, Leğ Iyyāsu. Cf. Mén pp. 146, 189, 283 and passim; HWSBiog p. 30; MSEthCul p. 235.

258 Lit.: "We brought about His Majesty's building." "Gemb" also signified palace in such contexts as "Fasil gemb".

admired[259] it. And now, the only thing lacking is the water-pipes. Please, see to it that they be brought to me quickly. Monsieur Savouré's mill and [the] bridge [material] have not yet arrived at the Hawāš. The Adāl are contemptuous; they irritate His Majesty let alone you. Show them your might once. Otherwise, the Adāl route will never be pacified. Here we find not so much news. Having covered a two-months' journey, Dağğāzmāč Tasammā is said to have returned safely and is expected to arrive at Enṭoṭṭo in a few days. Dağğāzmāč Walda Giyorgis is well. He sent His Majesty a few cows and heifers from the Sidāmā land. Cattle are difficult to find. We hear from Tegrē that Rās Mangašā incarcerated Dağğāzmāč Sebḥāt and sent him to a mountain [prison] called Ṣallamt[260]. Rās Alulā is [still] with him; he is not imprisoned. But he is under surveillance. Rās Mangašā has allegedly gone to ʾAgāmē. Hakim [physician] Ragazzi resides here. He says that he is waiting for a word from his government. He did not like very much the coming to you of Hakim [physician] Nerazzini[261]. Recently, there came a lot of newspapers here which claimed that Rās Makwannen desired the crown. Such news is spread by those who wish to create disharmony between you and His Majesty. The newspaper which publishes this news is Antonelli's called Riforma. Whatever they tell, His Majesty does not listen to such matters. And you should not because of this be displeased with the whites[262]. There are also many who would defend your name. Monsieur Chefneux arrived home safely and he is working hard for Ethiopia. As he is not a man to be distrusted, helping him for your part is tantamount to helping His Majesty. I had hoped to get telegraph, i.e. wire, news. I am sad that it has not come to this day. Why should a thing which is within your[263] power thus fail? Maybe Ethiopia wishes to live as in the olden times. While we say in all countries that the Ethiopians are decent and intelligent, and while we labour hard on your[264] behalf, why do you[265] drag [the work] backward. If all of the others are not aware [of this], you know everything; why do you keep aloof? Encouragement would have been your duty. I write all this, because I adore His Majesty and you. And now, may God grant you long life and health.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 2nd day of Naḥasē [= 7 August "1893"].

If my servants come from the coast[266], please see to it that they start well off.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

259 Lit. "... liked it for us."

260 This is a mistake for Ambā Salāmā on the outskirts of ʾAbey ʾAddi, Tanbēn. Cf. Bairu Tafla, "The Political Crisis in Tegray, 1889-1899" in: Africa Rivista Trimestrale di Studi e Documentazione dell'Istituto Italo-Africano 34.1-2 (1979) p. 113.

261 = Cesare Nerazzini (1849-1912), an Italian physician who arrived in Northeast Africa in 1882 and worked in various places in Eritrea and Ethiopia until 1897. He was a leading negotiator in the Italo-Ethiopian peace treaty of 1896. PuDiz p. 220; ZGSYoh p. 287.

262 The word "Farañ" was generally applied by the Ethiopian society to white people of European extraction. The Armenians, and occasionally the Greeks, were excluded of their own accord.

263 In the plural form.

264 In the plural form.

265 In the plural form.

266 Lit. "... from the sea".

100. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 7 September 1893

May it reach the venerated Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 14th day of Naḥasē [= 19 August]] has reached me. I was pleased to hear about your good health. I am also happy to hear that you led a military expedition and that you were satisfied with it. He [Menilek?] has said that if the money was ready for me, it would be allocated for that matter. And now, send me a letter stating to whom I should hand it here and I will do so. My lord, I hereby express my gratitude to you. I, too, will render services as much as I can. I had hoped that the *Ǧāno* cloth would come via the lowlands so that you might be able to see it. But now it has come via Ērar together with the goods of Monsieur Savouré. If you are now interested in obtaining [some] from here, Šawā, send me a letter so that I may give the *Ǧāno* to the same person to whom I will hand the money. Furthermore, I was amazed when you wrote me that I had failed to write you a letter. I had sent you [letters] twice; perhaps they did not reach you. And now, may God enable us see each other again in safety. Amen.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 3rd day of Ṗāgumēn 1885 [= 7 September 1893].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

Monsieur Ilg

101. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 28 March "1894"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, by the grace of God, am well.

I have sent through the hands of Monsieur Savouré a double-barrelled rifle; please take charge of it. His Majesty had given this rifle to Qañ̃ñāzmac Tāffasa[267]. It exploded as he [Tāffasa] was shooting an elephant. And now, His Majesty has ordered that this rifle be sent to Holland Rolland in London for repair, and here I am sending it to you together with a letter. Monsieur Zimmermann has started out for Ḥarargē. Please, my lord, see him off well on my behalf when he comes to you. As you are soon bound for the sea[268], may God

267 1871-96, the son of Qañ̃ñāzmāč Abbāynah and brother to Qañ̃ñāzmāč Ḫayla Śellāsē. He governed Sibu in the early 1890's. He was killed at the Battle of ʾAdwā. Cf. Mén pp. 396, 409, 410 and passim.

268 = the coast. The Rās visited Djibouti in 1894 to discuss matters of common interest with the French administration.

let you reach [your destination] in safety.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 20th day of Maggābit [= 28 March "1894"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

102. Menilek's Travel Permit for Alfred Ilg "Addis Ababā" 9 April 1894

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I have sent Monsieur Ilg to Wallaggā and, hence, you [pl.] should treat him well wherever he spends the night and provide him with an escort when he departs.

Given on the 2nd day of Miyāzyā 1887 of the Year of Grace [= 9 April 1894].

103. Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr Moradā to Alfred Ilg Amārač 28 May 1894

Sent by Dağğāzmāč Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr[269]. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

An answer to the letter which Liqa Makwās Abāta[270] had carried has come from His Majesty. The grain tithe amounted to 7,000 *Dāwellā* and, hence, I had suggested to him [the Emperor], after consulting with the Gondar contingent, to let me pay 500 *Waqēt* of gold. His Majesty enquired whether the total was that of Wallaggā or that of the whole [region] and demanded a reply from me. Nonetheless, His Majesty is aware of the vastness of the region, but not of its devastation. You have now seen that the region has been devastated and, hence, please tell Liqa Makwās Abāta about it. The Tegroč, too, are said to have arrived. As to the money you gave me to purchase gold on your behalf, I have bought 27 *Waqēt* of gold for 550 Thalers and have sent them to you. A gold loop [nugget] weighs ten *Waqēt*. I bought the loops

269 = Dağğāzmāč Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr (Kumsa) Moradā (1871-1923), a native and governor of Lēqā. He was baptized after the death of his father who had submitted to Menilek's rule and the Emperor became his godfather. Though he was instructed to take part in the military expeditions of western Wallaggā in 1898 and Sagalē in 1916, he is never reputed to have actually fought in a battle. But his administration was said to have been just. Cf. BulMen p. 48 f.; BTFEthBio pp. 11-13; HWSBiog 92.

270 = Abāta Bwāyālaw (later Rās) ca. 1868-1918, a notable of Gešē brought up at Menilek II's court. He governed various regions including Sibu, Kanbātā, Wāg and Lāstā and Wallo. Cf. Mén pp. 271 and 621-629; Hans Jannasch, Im Schatten des Neguś. Vierundzwanzig Jahre in Abessinien (Berlin 1930) pp. 35 f.; HWSBiog p. 50.

for 20 Thalers each. Furthermore, I bought the rest of the gold pieces for 19 Thalers each. Alternatively, they weigh 27 and a half[271] [Thalers] on the silver scale. I have also sent you the remaining money - 18 Thalers - with which no gold could be purchased. What you received from Aggāfāri Endiro[272] was different from this.

Written in the town of Amārač on the 21st day of Genbot (= 28 May "1894"].

[Seal]: Dağğāzmāč Gabra Egzi^{c}abḥēr.[273]

104. Menilek II to Bibliothèque Nationale
Addis Ababā, 12 September 1894

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach the head of the Bibliothèque Nationale in the city of Paris.[274]

I have heard that many books of our country exist in your state library; and as Monsieur Ilg is [now] going to his home country, I should appreciate it if you could allow me[275] [sic] to have them copied and/or view them. I hope the thing I have wished will come true.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 3rd day of Maskaram 1887 of the Year of Grace [= 12 September 1894].

105. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā^{c}ēl
Djibouti 28 September "1894"

May it reach my venerated friend and lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been?

271 The term "alad" refers to a silver coin (cf. note 24) valued at half a Taler, both of which were apparently used as measurement of weight. Hence, the silver scale seems to be different from the gold measurement i.e. *Waqēt*(cf note 142).

272 Apparently a major-domo of the Dağğāzmāč, but no further information is available about him.

273 Note that this seal is different in shape and effigy from that reproduced by de Coppet. Cf. Mén fig. 62.

274 Exactly the same letter in content and form as this one was also addressed a day later to the head of the "Bibliothèque Nationale in London" = possibly the British Museum Library.

275 Probably an error for "him", as Ilg is apparently authorized to see and/or copy the manuscripts.

By the grace of God, I, together with Leǧ Gugsā[276] and Leǧ Qeṭāw[277], have safely arrived in Djibouti. Monsieur Lagarde has returned safely from his country, and I am exceedingly happy with what he imparted to me. With him came Monsieur Mondon[278]. But Monsieur Chefneux is not yet there. He will nonetheless come soon. The French government intend to aggrandize Djibouti. All the ships will in the future sail via Djibouti. Landing at Aden will be abandoned. [The import of] firearms and cartridges is everywhere forbidden, except for Ethiopia. A road is going to be constructed as far as Bayadā[?]. Our mules have arrived in Djibouti with great trouble. Now, they [the French] are going to build many houses in Djibouti. Rās, why do you not request today on behalf of His Majesty and yourself the allocation of good sites before it becomes difficult [to get any]? Where can one be found, when every place is occupied? Even the Adarē place [zone] is going to be worth a great deal.[279] Do not forget, please! Furthermore, if you, the Rās, build a house in Djibouti, it is good for your reputation. Today, it can be built for a small sum; later, it will be very expensive. We are now departing for our country. We entrust our servants and mules to you, my lord. Six [servants] are Leǧ Gugsā's, Six Leǧ Qeṭāw's and ten mine. One mule is Gugsā's, two mules Qeṭāw's and three mules mine. Please keep on my behalf these six mules in a good place. I beg you furthermore to give to my servant, Gāšo, the eight pack animals left in Ḥarar and the two which are with Fitāwrāri Birrātu[280] or see to it that they be sent to Šawā. I have also sent four heads of cattle [qand] through the care[281] of Gāšo. We have left a tent in the house of Monsieur Savouré, as we failed to find a pack animal. My servants have furthermore bought ten Sneiders with their own money. Please, grant them a permit, my lord. I beg you to offer them some provisions when they travel to Šawā. May God praise you. Keep for me a wounded mule - I have instructed [my servants] not to ride it - and three Sneiders. May God reward you abundantly on my behalf for everything.

276 = Leǧ Gugsā Dārgē (ca. 1876-1921), youngest son of Rās Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē and, hence, first cousin of Menilek II. He was sent to Switzerland for education in 1894 when he was nearly 18, according to Ilg's account, but went over to Italy during the campaign of ʾAdwā. He died in Massawa in 1921 trying to return to his home country. Cf. Alfred Ilg to Fanny Gattiker, Qunni 25 September 1894; RouAW p. 302.

277 Dāmṭaw, according to HWSBiog p. 86, was the son of Azzāž Zāmānuʿēl, one of the high officials of Empress Ṭāytu, who was sent together with his age-mate, Gugsā Dārgē, to Switzerland in 1894 to receive training in some skill. He went over to Italy at the time of the campaign of ʾAdwā and remained there until his death of illness in 1902. Cf. Alfred Ilg to Fanny Gattiker, Qunni 25 September 1894; RouAw p. 309.

278 = Casimir Mondon-Vidailhet (1847-1910), a Frenchman who arrived in Ethiopia in 1892 and engaged himself as a journalist and researcher. He fostered good relations with Menilek who was said to have consulted his opinion on some international issues. He returned to his home country in 1897 on account of the deterioration of his eyesight. Upon his return to France, he worked at the Ecole des Langues Orientales. He published a book and a few articles on Ethiopia. RouAW pp. 308 f.; Gleichen, pp. 129, 180.

279 This sentence is clumsy in the original and can equally be rendered as follows, though the general context justifies the text version: "The Adarē place alone will also be worth a great deal."

280 Later Dağğāzmāč, an official of Rās Makwannen in Ḥarar. He was later transferred to the service of the Emperor and governed Bākko around 1904. Cf. The diary of Friedrich Julius Bieber (Ms. in the collection of the Nationalbibliothek in Vienna), 19 May 1904.

281 Lit.: "through the hands of Gassu."

Written in Djibouti on the 19th day of Maskaram [= 28 September "1894"].[282]
[Signature] Alfred Ilg

106. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to César Tian
Ḥarar 6 October 1894

Sent by Rās Makwannen, the governor of Ḥarar. May it reach the agent, Monsieur Tian. Peace be to you.

I had written to you a letter previously stating that Monsieur Ilg would come by and explain to you the types of rifles you might order. Now Monsieur Ilg is coming to you. He will let you know the type of rifle I want. Secondly, I should appreciate it if you could purchase quickly, and send me a good type of, metalwork for construction to the amount he will inform you of. He also knows the type of corrugated iron sheets we need for a house, and would you purchase the amount he will impart to you and send them to me. May He give you health.

Written in Ḥarar on the 27th Maskaram 1887 [= 6 October 1894].

107. Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē to Heinrich Appenzeller
Addis Ababā 19 February "1895"

Sent by Rās Dārgē. May it reach Monsieur Appenzeller. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. Are you well healthwise? I, too, am well by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

Your letter has reached me. Why should I worry about Leğ Gugsā as long as you are there? Even if I am not there,[283] are you not as much as I? May God enable us to meet in the flesh whenever He wills it.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 13th day of Yakkātit [= 19 February "1895").
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Rās Dārgē, head of the notables.[284]

282 A different date, whose significance is obscure, is given in French ("Dschibouti le 26 oct 1894") at the top of the original.

283 "Balnor" may as well be translated as, "even if I may not be alive". But the general context may justify the version I have chosen.

284 Mén fig. 28.

108. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 25 February 1895

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Zurich on the 9th day of January 1895 has reached me. You wrote to me saying, "Monsieur Chefneux will be arriving this week[285]; I hope you will receive him well". He is no stranger, or do you hold me in doubt? These days both of you - yourself and Monsieur Chefneux - are found to be Our true and sincere friends. Of this your heart should have no doubt. I was exceedingly delighted when you sent [word] to me that, "Ethiopia has now begun to gain more new friends than before". As long as you and Monsieur Chefneux are there, we shall not fail to gain friends. I have understood[286] that which you imparted to me saying, "The people who came from the Russian state (I found their names in a newspaper) are travelling allegedly to visit the Victoria Nyanza lake". However, they have not yet come to us here. We shall find out everything when they come. We shall also receive them well when they arrive. As to the matter of Mr. Crispi[287], all the people of Ethiopia know it let alone those of Europe. There is nothing we seek from Crispi, unless those [people] come here out of desire for war. We are not hankering for war today. We had planned to go up to Boru Mēdā, even if you had not hinted at it; we are of the opinion that it is better to monitor everything from there. May God reward you for the advice you imparted to me, saying: "A rich country is that of Abdurahman[288] and, hence, let it be that you do not disregard it; let it be that you send Dağğāzmāč Tasammā and Fitāwrāri Taklē[289] to occupy the country". If we let this country be taken, what kingdom shall we have? Do you think the Italians occupied Khassala in search of millet? Is it not in order to occupy the gold country in a roundabout way? Do not hesitate to write [Us] about such matters. Let it be that you send me news about the state of Leğ Gugsā and Qeṭāw. May God enable us to meet in the bodily life.

285 The Amharic expression, "bazih samon" is not very specific and, hence, the phrase can as well be rendered: "... these days".

286 Lit. "I have heard" or "I have listened to".

287 = Francesco Crispi (1819-1901), Italian prime minister in 1887-91 and from December 1893 to March 1896. A native of Sicily, he was an ultrarevolutionary who eventually turned to be a monarchist and an extreme nationalist. His premiership was characterized by conflict with France, suppression of socialists and failure in colonial attempts. Ency.Brit. - Micropaedia III (1979) p. 245.

288 = Abd al-Rahmān, ruler of Bēlā Šāngul. He succeeded his father, Khojali, in the mid-1880s. He spent much of his time fighting Mahdist and Ethiopian military incursions. His territory was finally incorporated into the Ethiopian Empire in 1898. Cf. Alessandro Triulzi, Salt, Gold and Legitimacy. Prelude to the History of a No-Man's Land - Belā Shangul, Wallaggā, Ethiopia (ca. 1800-1898) (Naples 1891) pp. 29, 146 f., 151-53, 167-79.

289 An officer with various assignments in the court of Menilek II. He was appointed guardian of Wasan Saggad, grandson of the Emperor and governed a district in the upper Gibē region. He was killed in action at the Battle of ʿAdwā. Cf. Mén p. 182,, 245, 375 and passim.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Yakkātit 1887 of the Year of Grace [= 25 February 1895].
[Seal]: This seal [belong to] Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

109. Zāmānuᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
... 25 February 1895

Sent by Azzāž Zāmānuᶜēl. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you been?[290] I, thank God, am well.

I have been ill throughout the season, as I fell from a mule on St. Mary's day of Maskaram [= 30 September 1894]. Today, I am better. May God enable us to meet in life. Let it be that you send me [word] about the time when you will be coming.

Written on the 19th day of Yakkātit 1887 of the Year of Grace [= 25 Febraury 1895].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Azzāž Zāmānuᶜēl of the Empress.

110. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 April 1895

May it reach Monsieur Ilg, the engineer[291]. My lord, I pay to you my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your letter has reached me. After I read it, however, [I thought] death were better for me! Nevertheless, I have not sent His Majesty a slander against you and Monsieur Chefneux. It is true, I have stated what all say that it is not good for Abyssinia if the railway penetrates Abyssinia. That was before I knew that you[pl.] had concluded an agreement; it was much earlier. This was before I was aware that His Majesty had made an agreement with you and Monsieur Chefneux. Later, when I came to know that he had made an agreement with you, I was exceedingly shocked. The reason for my speaking out was that I heard what all people said. Furthermore, I thought that some company or other were to build the railway; I knew that it was yours [only] after you told us that it was yours. Nonetheless, let me suffer punishment if I have sent to His Majesty a calumny that I fabricated about you and Monsieur Chefneux. However, the person who sent you [the information] is certainly my enemy. You, too, know it. All the world[292] knows that Grāzmāč Yosēf bears enmity against me. But it is unknown that he feeds on the sales of

290 Lit.: "How have you spent the rainy season?" Cf. n. 146 and 165 supra.
291 This term is used in the original before the name as a title in accordance with the German usage.
292 Lit. "The whole creation knows".

His Majesty's secrets to the Italians. Mine is exposed, as I am poor. But what if [I had]? It would not have been disgraceful of me if I had done it, though I have not. It has not begun with me that a person should help his country, his home.[293] And now, my lord, the reason why I attached myself to you was that I assumed you were a better [sponsor] for me in all respects. Now you have begun to my disadvantage to listen to the slanders of [my] enemies. And now, death would be better for me if you hate me and, hence, let it be that you send me home quickly. Furthermore, you have sent me the letter His Majesty had sent you regarding my case. Anyhow, now send me home quickly before many more expenses are incurred. If His Majesty demands that I should pay back the expenses already incurred, I will pay them back at home by asking for contributions[294].

Written in Neuchâtel on 6 April 1895.

Says your servant, Afawarq.

111. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
"Zurich 9 April 1895"

May it reach Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

I sent you a letter on 2 Yakkātit (= 10 March); I do not know whether it has arrived or not. I felt delighted when Monsieur Chefneux sent me [word] about the good health of Her Majesty. When I heard of the death of Wayzaro Zawditu's child,[295] I grieved exceedingly. I pray that God protect you, your court and your country. Your Majesty, I lived very long without taking a wife from my own country. And now considering that I should plan for old age, I have married a daughter of a grandee[296] of my country. As she is vigorous, she

293 The last phrase in this sentence corresponds to literally, "his river", an Amharic expression for home region, native locality. In this context, it obviously refers to the country as a whole.

294 The verb "rattaba", used in the passive in the original, refers to an Ethiopian tradition in which relations and acquaintances raise a temporary fund to pay off the debts of or reestablish someone.

295 This child was born in the autumn of 1891 and was a sight of pleasure at the court, as it was not only one of the few children born alive to Zawditu Menilek, but also the only one which reached the age of childhood. Hence, its death caused a great deal of grief in the Imperial court. Ilg was surprised at its birth, as his French letter to Grāzmāč Yosēf dated Zurich 10 December 1891 indicates, for some obscure reason, but he was probably in earnest when he stated that he grieved at its death. Some of the contemporary Europeans conjectured a sinister political act behind the death of the child in which the connivance of the Empress was suspected. Cf Carlo Zaghi, L'Italia e l'Etiopia alla Vigilia di Adua = Gli Annali dell'Africa Italiana IV/2 (1947), p. 539; J. G. Vanderheym, "L'Impératrice Taitu" in: Tour du Monde No. 9-12 (1896).

296 = Gattiker, the father of Fanny, is referred to in some sources (e.g. Cf. KelIlg pp. 209 f.) as "Gemeindepräsident" in Hirschlanden, Zürich, i.e. a citizen elected by his community to head that particular community for a particular period of time. His career otherwise seems to have been connected with a financial institution.

intends to come with me to Ethiopia. I have no doubt that she will manage the journey through the help of your guardian angel. I also hope that Your Majesty will be her supporter just as you have been for me. Inasmuch as I think about Walatta Māryām and my children, I will see to it that they have no problem. My wife pays her obeisance to her Majesty and says, "Do not fail me, as my husband has been your servant for a long time". May God let us meet in safety, says the servant of Your Majesty.

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing

Monsieur Ilg.

112. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 9 April "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 5th day of Maggābit [= 13 March] has reached me, and I was very happy. When I heard[297] that the daughter of Wayzaro Zawditu had died, I was saddened. I exceedingly pitied Fitāwrāri Takla Māryām[298], as he died before seeing better days. I sent letters on the 10th of Tāḥśāś [= 18 December "1894"] and the 9th of Ṭer [= 16 January "1895"]; I do not know if they arrived or not. Leǧ Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq are well acclimatized in our country and are progressing very well in their language training. They have been admitted to a big school in the town called Neuchâtel. Having thought that I should plan for the future before getting too old, I have married[299] my lady-compatriot, a daughter of a grandee. She is a very winsome girl. She has no fear to go with me to Ethiopia. I am much concerned about my children and Walatta Māryām who are in Šawā. [But] that is no problem so long there is a friend like you. I was saddened to hear that war broke out in your[300] country. But it is not a thing to fear. The Italians cannot sustain a tough war. But today is scarcely the day to wage a war. There will probably come better days, and it would be preferable for His Majesty to wait calmly. What may confound Ethiopia is dissensions among yourselves; an army that comes from afar cannot sustain a long war. Furthermore, the Italians do not have much money. Today's war is caused by Monsieur

297 Lit.: "When you [they] said ..."

298 Also known as Gullelatē, son of Mared azmāč Ḫayla Mikāᶜēl Śāḥla Śellāsē and, hence, first cousin of Menilek II. He plotted to kill the Emperor in 1893 and was sentenced to death, which sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. Cf. Mén p. 326; HWSBiog pp. 31, 37; MSEthCul p. 237.

299 Ilg wrote news of his new marriage and about his obligation to care for his Ethiopian wife and the children by her to the royal couple and several notables in more or less the same wording. This particular document is selected on grounds of its inclusion of other materials of historical significance.

300 In the plural form.

Crispi to distract his own people from their poverty so as to be able to play a different role. I have sent a quantity of newspapers for His Majesty. I mailed it in the name of Monsieur Chefneux so that nobody would steal them. Please, look at them and dispatch them to Šawā. Please, send me also the 8,000 Thalers you had promised to Marseilles so that it may arrive quickly. The days pass rapidly just like that! His Majesty has furthermore sent me [a message] to purchase immediately a goldsmith-machine. The price of the machine is around 12000 Thalers. The letter written on the 17th day of Yakkātit [= 23 February] says as follows: "As soon as you communicated the price of the goldsmith-machine, I sent [a message] to Rās Makwannen to give it to you. As soon as you communicate with him, he will give it to you." And now, I beg my lord to give the 12000 Thalers to Monsieur Pienne[?] in Marseilles so that I can order the production of the goldsmith-machine. I will send with it an expert goldsmith. In order to save time, I will borrow [money] and have the machine constructed. Please my lord, do not let the money fail to come so that I may not be discredited. I found old-model Remington firearms, but I have not yet bought them. To save time, I will borrow money and purchase and ship a big quantity. I will let you know when it is on the way. Please my lord, let me know when the letter reaches [you]. I beg you to write to me about all affairs. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Miyāzyā [= 9 April "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

113. Alfred Ilg to Walatta Māryām
Zurich 9 April "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Wayzaro Walatta Māryām, Balāynaš, Damessē, Tasammā and Abbaba. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Why have you not sent a letter? Please, give one to Monsieur Chefneux. He can send it to me. I, Ato Afawarq, Leǧ Gugsā and Leǧ Qeṭāw are well. If you have received Thalers from Monsieur Stévenin and bought gold, give it to Monsieur Chefneux on my behalf. He will send it to me. 830 Thalers from the sale of the rifles belong to Ato Afawarq. Buy gold immediately with this money and send it to us. The rest of the Thalers should remain in your hands. God willing, I shall come after the rainy season. May God enable us to meet in safety.

Written in Zurich on the 2nd day of Miyāzyā [= 9 April "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

114. Zāmānuᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 April "1895"

Sent by Azzāž Zāmānuᶜēl. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. May God enable us to meet each other again in this life.

I have been ill, having fallen down from a mule. Thank God, I am now better. I never stopped sending letters to you, though the letters I sent may not have arrived. Your house and all your retinue are well.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 10th day of Miyāzyā [= 17 April "1895"]. [Seal]: Azzāž Zāmānuᶜēl of the Empress

115. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 23 April 1895

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg, the engineer. My lord, I pay my obeisance many[301] times.

My lord!

You tell me to send you the truth. What I sent you earlier was also the truth. What untrue word have I sent you? And now, my word is the same. I have no other word. What I wrote to His Majesty does not encompass all that you have heard. It is true that before I knew that His Majesty had made an agreement with you and with Monsieur Chefneux [and] when it was formerly alleged that all the peoples of Europe - including the governments of France and Italy as well as the governments and peoples of other nations - had formed a company to build a railway to Abyssinia along the Awāš [and] everyone rumoured that "the wilderness was hitherto a shield to the Abyssinians, but if a railway is built the shield of the Abyssinians is holed", when I heard this, inasmuch as there is no one who does not somehow think about his home country, and particularly when it was said that the Italians were to participate in the railway company, I did dispatch what I had heard. However, if I have mentioned names when reporting to His Majesty in order to defame you and Monsieur Chefneux, by the death of Menilek, I am willing to suffer punishment. This I sent before you told me that you had made an agreement with His Majesty. After you informed me, however, I realized that it was yours and I became very nervous. I was afraid to tell you and I kept quiet. I had actually blamed you before I knew [the fact] saying, "Why did Monsieur Ilg keep quiet when the railway concession was discussed?" This was my word. I have no other word. Besides, what can I do if you listen to the slander of Grāzmāč Yosēf? For my part, however, I have told you the truth. If anyone proves that I intrigued against you and Monsieur Chefneux, I will accept punishment. As a matter of fact, what is sent to His

301 Lit. "ten ten times".

Majesty cannot be concealed. You will find out everything. Nobody can allege that I have written [something] to have my own father discredited. Besides, you will find out the truth from His Majesty. You, too, cannot be hard put to understand it. How could you imagine that I, the beneficiary of your fatherhood, might - and what for would I - be envious of you? Nevertheless, you will eventually witness the case of the Grāzmāč and mine. We have yet a matter to settle before His Majesty. We will have the opportunity to disclose the truth and expose one another's wrongs. Today, you favour him; later, you will differentiate between my untruthfulness and his untruthfulness. For the time being, Grāzmāč Yosēf relates this story to Monsieur Chefneux and others as if it were fresh. All your friends send you [information about it]. Until the truth is discovered, you will be angry with me.

Your servant Afawarq,
Neuchâtel 23 April 1895

116. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 8 May 1895

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg, [the] engineer. My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How about your loin? Are you not better? I, thank God, am well.

My lord, with regard to the 320 (three hundred and twenty) Thalers you had promised me that you would send [a message] to my lady[302] so that she might pass it on. And now, please send [word] to my lady on my behalf so that gold may be bought for me. And I have herewith written a letter to my lady; please read it and write to my lady on my behalf. Furthermore, I do not know if she[303] received or not the money you had ordered for me from Monsieur Savouré. Has Monsieur Savouré not sent you word that he had given [it to her]? If gold had been bought on my behalf, it would have come through you. And now, it has taken too long. I think the reason is that my lady has not received the Thalers. In any case, it is possible for you to enquire [after it].

Written in the town of Neuchâtel on the 1st day of Genbot [= 8 May "1895"]. I also pay obeisance many times to my lady.

Your servant, Afawarq.

302 Walatta Māryām?

303 The personal pronoun in this statement is vague. It could as well be the plural form of the third person. But Mrs. Ilg is again referred to later in this letter in connection with the money and, hence, the assumption that the suffix "accaw" pertains to the respect form of the third person singular.

117. Qeṭāw Zāmānuᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 15 May "1895"

May it reach Monsieur Alfred Ilg, the engineer. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. What about your illness? Are you not better?

To my surprise,[304] I have seen that my hosts have written about [expenses for] my excursion and evening meal. The money you gave me is not too little for excursions and other matters; why should I squander extra money! The reason for their writing this is that one evening they told me: "We shall not eat our evening meal at home. We shall eat out and, hence, let us go." "I do not mind as long as I have my evening meal," I said[305] and went [with them]. This was the case. Furthermore, "Why should I speak out after the letter has been written," I thought and kept quiet intending to write[306] to you.

Written in the town of Neuchâtel on the 8th day of Genbot [= 15 May "1895"].

Says Leǧ Qeṭāw.

Furthermore, I am enclosing herewith a letter to be dispatched to Abyssinia, and I beg you, my lord, to send it on my behalf.

118. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Zurich 11 June "1895"

May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Alfred Ilg. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Sir, are you not better from your illness? Are you getting better today? How are you? I, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, am well.

I sent you letters twice. Did they not reach you? I suppose they have not reached you and, hence, I got no reply. Now, I have heard that you have come back to Zurich from the country[307] you had travelled. I beg you, my lord, to send me a letter [telling me] whether you returned safely and how you are getting on. I pay obeisance to my lady[308] inquiring how she has been doing. Please convey my greetings saying thus.

Written in the city of Zurich[309] on the 5th day of Sanē [= 12 June "1895"].

304 Lit. "However".

305 One cannot be sure from this context alone if he really said so. The word "ala" in Amharic includes saying to oneself, assume, imagine or think. Hence, "I thought" may as well be an appropriate translation.

306 Lit. "to send to you".

307 = North Africa where Ilg and his bride spent their honeymoon. Ilg chose this region in order to observe the development of railways in Algeria and Tunisia.

308 = Fanny Gattiker, Ilg's new bride.

309 It is not clear why Gugsā wrote a letter from the same city as Ilg. It is probably a mistake for Neuchâtel. The letter is in any case chaotic in its construction.

Sent by Leǧ Gugsā.
The shirts you sent us have reached us. May God reward you on our behalf, my lord.
[Signature]: Gougsa.

119. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 14 June "1895"

May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Ilg, the engineer. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Sir, how are you getting on with your illness? Are you not a little bit better? I, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, am well.

No reply has come to all the letters I have sent [you]. My lord, is it because they did not reach you? Is it not disappointing when no reply comes for the dispatched letters? I would have liked to receive a reply whenever you could. Furthermore, I have got tapeworm, and although I have taken [medicine] three times, I was not relieved. I am at a loss. Madame Ochsner, too, has said that she would inform you about this matter. Has she not sent you [a message]? And now, my lord, look for a strong medicine from a physician if possible and send it to me. I have tried all the rest and they are ineffective. Thus I beg, my lord.

Written in the city of Neuchâtel on the 8th day of Sanē [= 14 June "1895"].
Sent by Leǧ Gugsā.
[Signature]: Lidj Gougsadargé.

120. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 8 July "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

My venerated friend! I had sent you a letter on the 2nd day of Miyāzyā [= 9 April]. No message came to me, nor has any Thaler reached me. I am in great distress, and I am consequently sad. Why, my lord, would you not impart to me that everything should be given up? Though I labour so much for you[310], you deny me a letter! I went to the city of Paris and saw Monsieur Lagarde. When I asked after the state of the affairs, he said: "Only fine words and letters come from Rās Makwannen, but nothing fruitful. Rās Makwannen allows export of articles [of trade] through Zeila, but he requests me to let weapons through

310 In the plural form.

on my side. The friendship of the Rās is in [his] words, not from [his] heart."[311] Why, my lord! Will you not consider what can happen? Can weapons and cartridges be imported through Zeila when the French port is closed? There is no one who has been so useful as the French. There is no one who has profited[312] less than the French. What will become of us if we do not agree with the French? Truly I was shocked to hear all this, and I told them: "It is only because Rās Makwannen has problems; have no doubt of his friendship." You are not ignorant of it; the greatest enemies are the Italians and the English. Why do you help these? Is it not better to retain a friend? The reason why I impart this is because I adore you and your country. These days are dangerous; it is not good if we do not all join hands together. And now, please watch out that you do not run into conflict with the French. I beg you, my lord and friend. Please, be also in harmony with Monsieur Chefneux. He laboured greatly for you[313]. But he sent me [word] that he has not yet gained recognition and trust. If you have no confidence [in us], what should we toil for? My lord, please send me replies now and then. My heart is uneasy. I am living in distress. Leǧ Gugsā, Leǧ Qeṭāw and Afawarq are all well. All three send their greetings.[314] May God let us meet again in safety. Please, forget me not.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 2nd day of Ḥamlē [= 8 July "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

121. Alfred Ilg to Dāmṭāw Aṭnāf Saggad
Zurich 12 July "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Fitāwrāri Dāmṭaw[315]. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

I have been exhilarated to hear of your journey to Russia. And now, my lord, you should strive hard for your country - Ethiopia -, His Majesty, and your religion. The intrigues of today are more serious than ever. The Italians and the English are furious about your mission and the friendship of Russia. Consequently, the Italians are contemplating war. If the Russians, jointly with the French, befriend you, the Ethiopians, it is very advantageous for Ethiopia. The Italians claim that they have a treaty, and that on the grounds of section 17 of this treaty they mean to isolate the Ethiopian government from all the other

311 Lit.: "The friendship of the Rās is from the mouth, and not from the heart."
312 Lit.: "There is none who has been so bankrupt as the French." The connotation is on account of the addressee.
313 In the plural form.
314 Lit.: "All three prostrate themselves [before you]."
315 = Dāmṭaw Aṭnāf Saggad, one of the officials of Menilek II and son-in-law of Rās Dārgē. He was sent to Russia as an envoy in 1895. He was killed in action less than a year later in the campaign of ʾAdwā. HWSBiog p. 86; Mén pp. 245, 359, 370 and passim.

governments and direct it according to their wish. They claim that if they run into conflict with King Menilek, they will reach an agreement with all other governments and hamper import of firearms and cartridges. And now, God has brought you to Russia, and you should strive to win the Russians to your side. The Russian sovereign is indeed a great king. He is very illustrious in the faith and in justice. And if he becomes a friend of the Ethiopian government there is no [other] government which can threaten Ethiopia. And now, I am pleased that you sent me a letter, for you know that I toil for you[316]. The youths staying with me are all well. His Majesty is somewhere around Ambāssal. He sent me a letter from Warraylu. Rās Makwannen has entered Ḥarargē. Let me know quickly whether you are departing soon or staying there longer. May God preserve you.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 6th day of Ḥamlē [= 12 July "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

122. Alfred Ilg to Dāmṭāw Aṭnāf Saggad
Zurich 29 July "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Fitāwrāri Dāmṭaw. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me and I have been very much pleased. All the news that has come from Šawā is good. His Majesty and Her Majesty are all right. I was greatly surprised when you sent me [word] that you[pl.] were going to return quickly. I hope you will agree well with the king of Russia. There is no friend for Ethiopia other than France and Russia. One should respect this friendship very well, for there is no other succour for you except that of God.[317] Hence, trust them and be good friends. The youths who are with me are well. They will stay here longer. Send me the date for your departure. Now it is the rainy season and I assume you will be going only as far as Ḥarargē, for the route is rather difficult. And now, write to me before you leave. May God enable us to meet each other in safety.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 23rd of Ḥamlē [= 29 July "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

316 In the plural form.
317 Lit. "there is no hope for you except God".

123. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 14 August 1895

May it reach our lord, our father. We pay obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. How have you been? We, thank God, are well.

How about your loin? Your letter has reached us; thank you. We are learning diligently. Our teacher instructs us well. He is a nice person. We have heard of His Majesty's entry to Addis Ababā. If Fitāwrāri Dāmṭaw and others are still in Russia, please let us know so that we may write them letters. Enclosed herewith is a photo of all of us, and we request you to give it to the mother of our lady[318]. We also pay our obeisance many times to our lady wishing that the Redeemer of the World give her health. We agree to write you letters henceforth frequently.

Written in the town of Neuchâtel on the 9th day of Naḥasē [= 14 August "1895"],
say your sons: Leǧ Gugsā, Leǧ Qeṭāw, Afawarq.

124. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 18 August 1895

May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Ilg. My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My lord, how have you been regarding your health? How about your loins? We, thank God, are well.

We are pursuing our lessons diligently. Our teacher instructs us sedulously. We have also given up sitting in an alehouse and are concentrating on our education. My lord, I must trouble you in only one thing: I am suffering from tapeworm in the stomach, and please buy and send me medicine similar to that you bought for Leǧ Gugsā. Please, send it to me within three days, as I am terribly sick. I have written below the number of the house where I live:
Afevork Chez Mme Neipp
Faubourg de l'hôpital No 11 Neuchâtel

318 Mrs. Gattiker, the mother-in-law of Alfred Ilg.

125. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 18 August 1895

May it reach our lord, our father, Monsieur Ilg. We pay obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. How have you indeed been? We, thank God, are well.

Your letter has reached us. Thank you. We should be very happy if henceforth you could send us [letters] frequently. We know actually that you have a great deal to do. But we should be happy if you could write us whenever you have the time. We should also be pleased if you could send us news of our country in case you hear about it. Herewith we are sending you the number of our house and the name of our teacher. Our teacher instructs us sedulously. He is a kind teacher. We also pay our obeisance many times to our lady wishing that the Redeemer of the World give her health. After some time, we will write to her in French. The reason why we have not written in French now is that we intended to wait a bit until we are good at it,

say your sons: Leǧ Gugsā, Leǧ Qeṭāw. Afawarq.

126. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 27 August 1895

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. My lord, how have you been with regard to your health? I, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, am well.

I am pursuing my education; the teacher, too, is good. Have no worry, my lord. However, send me [word] frequently whenever you find news of our country, my lord. Once again the month has come and let it be that you send us our provisions loaded on chosen pack animals. Furthermore, since it rained often and I had nothing for protection when I go to school, I have borrowed [money] and bought an umbrella for 8 francs. I just wanted to let you know. Some time ago, my lady had bought and sent us one set of underwear each. I have nothing other than that. I have nothing to change when that is being washed. The earlier one has been worn out. I also have no shoes. The small pair is impossible, as it hurts my feet. I should like to have another one. My lord, I have now written this, because you had said that we should not be silent when we are in need.

Sent by Leg Gugsā.

[Signature]: Gougsa Dargue

127. Afawarq and Qeṭāw to Alfred Ilg
"Neuchâtel 27 August 1895"

We pay to you our obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Our lord, how have you been regarding your health? We, by the grace of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, are well.

Behold [the time for] our provision has come and we should like to remind you to send it to us, our lord.

Say your sons: Ato Afawarq and Leǧ Qeṭāw.

128. Alfred Ilg to Walatta Māryām
"Zurich ... September 1895"

May it reach my love, Emmētē Walatta Māryām. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I was very shocked to hear of the illness of Tasammā. May God let him recover. Search medicine from among my friends. Why did you not tell me the type of his illness? As far as the money is concerned, I have sent [a message] to Monsieur Savouré. Kiss all my children. I will be coming soon. May God protect you. Send me [news] about the house, the country and all the servants. May God let us meet in safety.

Says your love, Monsieur Ilg.

129. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 September "1895"

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. My lord, how have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I am sending herewith a letter to Šawā and I beg you to send it on my behalf. That is why the dispatch is heavy. I just wanted to let you know. I have enclosed the letter to my mother in that of [my] lord so that [my] lord may send it to my mother, or else it may not reach [her]. I have furthermore sent a photo of mine to His Majesty. Let it be that you send it on my behalf. Please do it my lord, for if I send a photograph of myself, they may not be longing [for me]. That is why I am sending [photographs].

Sent by Leǧ Gugsā on the 2nd day of Ṗāgumēn [= 6 September "1895"].

[Signature]: Gougsa Dargue.

130. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Zurich 7 September "1895"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

Monsieur Chefneux sent me [the message] that he received 20,000 Thalers from Rās Makwannen. May God reward you bountifully on my behalf. I was in a critical situation. Now I am hurrying to have a bridge and a goldsmith's machine constructed.

The warlike attitude of the Italians is subsiding today. Baratieri[319] is likely to return to Massawa. As you said, however, Negus Menilek himself [intends] to kill all the Rāsoǧ and pacify Ethiopia.[320] He has no trust in his compatriots. You should nonetheless watch out from the direction of Zeila. As to me, I have not found any friend who would write me news from Ethiopia. What about you, my lord? Would you not send me some?

Written in the city of Zurich on the 3rd day of Ṗāgumēn [= 7 September "1895"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

131. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 8 September 1895

May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Ilg. My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My lord, how have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter which came from Šawā has reached me. However, in case you have not heard the news that my lady[321] had sent me, I should like to tell it to you: they say that Tasammā is very ill and is confined to bed. They say that six months have elapsed since his illness began. It would be good if you could send a letter to our home to find out about his illness. Furthermore, in the letter written in Genbot, they say that my lady gave birth [to a child]. You have probably heard that she gave birth safely. Furthermore, as you had promised to give me Thalers as a gift through my lady, I had written to my lady requesting her to purchase for me gold with the Thalers [my] lord had presented me with. Now my lady has written to me saying, "Where from can money be found? There is none". I am writing this to you so that you may know it,

Says your son, your servant, Afawarq.

319 = General Oreste Baratieri (1841-1901). 1887-91, regiment commander in Eritrea; subsequently became commander-in-chief of the Italian army in Eritrea. He escaped from the Battle of ʾAdwā unscathed and was subsequently acquitted by court-martial. He retired to Trentino where he died. Cf. PuDiz p. 33.

320 The significance of this sentence is obscure, as the finite verb is missing and the two consecutive sentences are grammatically incorrect.

321 = Walatta Māryām, the Ethiopian wife of Alfred Ilg.

132. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 17 September "1895"

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. My lord, how have you been with regard to your health? I, by the grace of God, am well.

However, my lord, it turned out that the medicine was ineffective. It [the tapeworm] returned to me exactly two months later. I had hoped and wished that an effective medicament would be found which could obliterate it for ever. But now no effective medicine has been found against this thing. What can be done! Please buy and send me the same type of medicine to take which I have swallowed before. My lord, it is not out of my free will. What can I do? Give my regards to my lady.

Sent by Leǧ Gugsā.

[Signature]: Lidg Gougsa Dargué.

Furthermore, my lord, His Majesty sent us [word] saying, "Please strive to acquire some skills". However, it seems to me that His Majesty has not taken into account the question of the language. Now however, in order to fulfill His Majesty's wish, we intend to commence training the skills which His Majesty has in mind. My lord, you, too, should consider it. I should be happy if you could send me a reply to this. However, let it be according to your wish.

133. Gugsā Dārgē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 23 September "1895"

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg. I pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. My lord, how have you been? I, thank God, am well.

My lord, I had sent you a letter requesting for tapeworm medicine. Has it not reached you? Why such a delay until now? In our country when one notices tapeworm, there is no delay of two days let alone so long without taking [medicine]. And now, my lord, please send me some soon so that I may finish with it tomorrow evening. I beg you my lord not to delay it beyond tomorrow.

[Signature]. Gougsa

134. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 28 September 1895

May it reach our lord, our father. Our lord, we pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of

the World give [you] health. How have you been? We, thank God, are well.

Did you arrive [home] well after we parted from each other last time? After parting from you then, we toured the whole city riding in the carriage you gave us. We were delighted. Then, we ate our supper at seven o'clock. We started out at the time you had told us and arrived in Neuchâtel quickly. However, we have been dreaming since our return that we were still riding with you in the city of Bern. In fact, Leǧ Gugsā imagined in his dream that the Ursč[322] hyaenas bit him, and he spent the night screaming. Even now, his fear has not yet waned. As to Afawarq, he shuddered throughout the night thinking that he was falling off the bridge. Qeṭāw, too, nearly died of fear imagining that he fell down the same way the horseman did and that he would be permanently lame like his father.[323] We pay obeisance many times to my lady wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [her] health. We did not write much to my lady, because we saw each other last time through the hole of your telephone,

say your sons - Leǧ Gugsā, Leǧ Qeṭāw, Afawarq.

135. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 9 October 1895

May it reach my lord, my father, Monsieur Ilg. My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My lord, how have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter which came from Šawā and which you forwarded to us has reached us. Furthermore, the answer to the letter you sent to His Majesty on my behalf has now come. I thank you. It is because you sent it promptly that it could reach Šawā and I got the answer quickly. And now, I have written the answer to His Majesty and I pray you to send it quickly on my behalf. The reason why I have not written in French is because that I am now in a hurry. Do not be angry with me. I pay obeisance many times to my lady wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [her] health.

Your son, your servant, Afawarq.

136. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Walatta Māryām
"Neuchâtel" 10 October "1895"

May it reach my lady, my mother, Wayzaro Walatta Māryām. I prostrate myself many times saying, how are you indeed, my lady, my mother? How are the children and yourself

322 Not identified.
323 Cf doc. 109 supra.

healthwise? How about Tasammā? Is he not better? The reason why I am not writing you much now is because I am in a hurry. My lady, please give my regards to all members of the household. I wrote to His Majesty about that which I had earlier written to you saying that you should not be worried if you heard something that might concern me. Now His Majesty has sent me a reply. As I had told you it proved to be a rumour by an enemy. I am innocent. Rejoice, my lady.

May it reach my sister, my friend, Balāynaš.[324] Sister, how are you indeed? I, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of Christ, am well. Please do not be angry with me for not writing you much, as I am now in a hurry. Give my regards to all. You, too, write me frequently.

Written on the 30th day of Maskaram [= 10 October "1895"].

Afawarq.

137. Gugsā, Qeṭāw and Afawarq to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 21 October 1895

May it reach our lord, our father, Monsieur Ilg. We pay obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give [you] health. How have you been? We, thank God, are well.

My lord, having heard a great deal of news here about our country, we are worrying very much. We cannot know the truth, as you have sent us no news. We should like to come and discuss everything with you and, hence, allow us now to come [to you]. We had intended to travel to you today. Fearing that you might be angry if we came without asking for your permission, we remained. Please send us a reply soon, our lord, so that we can come. Say your children: Gugsā, Qeṭāw, Afawarq.

138. Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel 6 November 1895

My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My lord, how have you been? I, thank God, am well.

My lord, I had recently asked you to give one hundred (100) Thalers to Balāynaš on my behalf, and you had agreed. And now, my lord, please do not forget it. I have herewith written her a letter informing her to receive 100 Thalers from wherever he [Ilg] might arrange for it "to be paid out to you." Please, arrange it on my behalf so that she can receive [the money] there. I pay obeisance to my lady many times wishing that the Redeemer of the

324 Apparently, wife of Afawarq, and a relation of Walatta Māryām, the Ethiopian wife of Alfred Ilg.

World give [her] health. Leǧ Gugsā, too, pays obeisance likewise.
Says your son, your servant: Afawarq.
[Signature]: Afevork.

139. Yosēf Neguśē to Gugsā Dārgē
Warraylu 6 November 1895

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Leǧ Gugsā [and] Leǧ Qeṭāw. My brothers, how have you spent the rainy season? I, thank God, am well. Many days have elapsed since I have not had your letters. What could be wrong with me? May God enable us to meet each other again in this life.

Written in the town of Warraylu on the 27th day of Ṭeqqemt 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 6 November 1895].
[Seal]: Grasmac Jusef - Grāzmāč Yosēf.

140. Walda Gabreᶜēl to Gugsā and Qeṭāw
Warraylu 7 November 1895

Sent by Aggāfāri Walda Gabreᶜēl[325]. May it reach Leǧ Gugsā [and] Leǧ Qeṭāw. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well. I am pleased to hear of your wellbeing. You have, however, not sent me any letter. And now, may God enable us through his grace to meet again in safety.

Written in the town of Warraylu on the 28th day of Ṭeqqemt [= 7 November "1895"].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Aggāfāri Walda Gabreᶜēl.

141. Walatta Māryām to Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus
Addis Ababā 8 November "1895"

Sent by Wayzaro Walatta Māryām. May it reach my brother, my friend, Ato Afawarq. How have you indeed been since we parted [and] throughout the rainy season? My brother, we

325 = Walda Gabreᶜēl Bašāh (later Bitwaddad), one of the officials in the Imperial court. A native of Šawā who started his career as a servant in the palace and rose to one of the highest positions in the government. After the incapacitation of Menilek II, he was transferred to provincial governorship. In 1919, he became a member of an Ethiopian delegation to France. He died in 1935. HWSBiog p. 70; MSEthCul p.266 f.

are doing fine.

The letter written in Ṗāgumēn [5-10.9.1895] has reached me. May God reward you on my behalf. Tasammā[326] is still ill. I took him to the holy waters[327] and sojourned there throughout the rainy season. Once again I will be taking him [there]. Do not forget me these days. I am worried. Your estates, animals and plot have all been seized. Meanwhile we are in trouble. I had sent [you] a letter in Maskaram [= 10.9.-9.10.1895]. No reply came to me. And now let God enable us meet each other again.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 29th day after the month of Ṭeqqemt began [= 8 November "1895"].

142. Balāynaš to Afawarq Gabra Iyyasus "Addis Ababā ... November 1895"

May it reach my lord, Ato Afawarq. My lord, I pay my obeisance many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

The letter written in Ṗāgumēn has reached me. May God reward you on my behalf. The reason why the Mamḥer did not write [to you] is because he is ill. He has been ill throughout the rainy season. Besides, he is in Bulgā. Bulgā, together with its cattle and grain, has been impounded.[328] Claiming that His Majesty has given it to him, Rās Dārgē seized Goǧǧām together with its grain. His Majesty has gone on an expedition in the direction of Warraylu. ... were arrested in Maskaram[329]. While Ato Abta Wald and Erobā were testing a pistol, Erobā shot and hit Abta Wald, and Abta Wald died.[330] Otherwise, we are all right.

Says Balāynaš.

Alaqā Tasammā[331] died.

326 This person has not been identified. It seems that he was a brother to Walatta Māryām.

327 *Ṣabal* or *Ḥabal* refers to healing waters of a church or monastery. Some are more famous than others and people undertake pilgrimages to immerse themselves in the springs for seven or fourteen days.

328 This and the next sentence probably refer particularly to the possessions of Afawarq rather than to the regions as a whole.

329 The name of the person arrested is apparently missing. The main verb refers to either one person in respect form or to more than one person. "Maskaram" refers to the period from 10.9. to 9.10.1895.

330 Erobā = Robā; Abta Wald = Habta Wald. Both were in the service of Ilg since as early as the 1880s and they accompanied him to the coast several times. Cf. Doc. 20 supra.

331 This person could not be identified, as this name was very common. But it is likely that he was the same person as the sick one by the same name mentioned in the previous document.

143. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
... ... November 1895

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Zurich on the 10th day of Ṭeqqemt 1895 has reached me.[332] As to your statement, "I have sent to Monsieur Hech a box containing watch-straps and watches through the hands of Monsieur Savouré in Genbot,"[333] Monsieur Savouré did not give it to me; I do not know if he took it with him. When I left for Walāmo,[334] he stole all the things and fled. I had sent you a letter when I started out from Warraylu on the 28th day of Ṭeqqemt [= 7 November]. You will find all the news in it. It may have reached you already. I have sent [word] to Ḥarargē and Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq to receive Monsieur Chefneux well. But he cannot catch up with me. I am making a forced march. I will find the things when I come back. As for you, you come here with all the things I have ordered you [to bring]. Let the youths also come with you. If we believe that they should receive an advanced training, We will send them [abroad] another time. With regard to the living quarters you requested me to have it built for you, I have ordered them to build one and I have given them the measurements for it. It will be ready for you by the time you come. There is nothing to be afraid of as far as the Adāl are concerned. The Adāl themselves live in fear, let alone of fighting Rās Mikā'ēl. All that the Italian journalists report is not genuine.[335]

144. Menilek II's Monetary Proclamation
Enṭoṭṭo 12 January 1896

Hear ye, hear ye, may the enemies of the *Adbār Awgar* be denied the gift of harmony.
Hear ye, hear ye, may the enemies of our lord, Menilek, be denied the gift of harmony.
Hear ye, hear ye, may the enemies of St. Mary be denied the gift of harmony.

I have released a proclamation last year on the 6th day of Maggābit 1887 of the Year of Grace [= 14 March 1895] that I had a new Thaler minted, with my effigy and my name,

332 The date in this statement is probably Gregorian and should, therefore, be read: 10 October 1895. See also Doc. No. 002 supra.
333 = between 8 May and 7 June.
334 The Walāmo military expedition took place in December to January 1894-95. The pronoun "he" in this context refers probably to the little known foreigner, Hech. From all indications, Savouré seems to have been a reliable and well established businessman.
335 The letter ends here abruptly. A page or so is possibly missing.

and had it imported in order that the government of our country, Ethiopia, gain respect and our trade flourish.[336] And now, starting with the coming Genbot[337], it is strictly forbidden to make payments to my government with any Thaler other than that Thaler minted with my effigy. Those of you in Ḥarargē and elsewhere who wish to pay in Thalers to my government, you can find the newly minted Thaler with my name in Aden and at the coast, for I have prepared centres for it. I warn you herewith today that I will forbid, when enough of the new Thaler will have flowed into the treasury,[338] any payment of customs duties or taxes with the old Thalers. I had also told you through the earlier proclamation that the [silver of the] new Thaler is purer than that of the older ones. Hence, it is better for you to exchange the old Thalers rapidly. You shall be punished if caught paying to my government in any Thalers other than the new Thalers.

[Given] at the town of Enṭoṭṭo on the 4th day of Ṭer 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 12 January 1896].

145. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Menilek II
Zurich 12 February 1896

May it reach the venerated and sublime Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

Your Majesty!

We had hitherto sent you two important telegraph messages. We hope that you have understood from these telegraphic messages that we are engaged in [the pursuit of] very serious matters on your behalf and on the behalf of Ethiopia. We have been so far only two, but we are now highly delighted that we have today a third, Monsieur Colonel Leontiev[339] - a keen friend of Ethiopia and a loyal servant of Your Majesty. The three of us met together many times and discussed matters concerning Ethiopia. Monsieur Leontiev wished to go quickly to Your Majesty. We are very sorry that we are not yet ready. We should have liked to meet Your Majesty soon. But we are obliged to stay here in order to wind up Your Majesty's concerns in this country[340], to be watchful in political affairs and to understand

336 The equivalent to the phrase "Year of Grace" in this sentence as well as in the closing statement is split into two, "the Year" being placed before the date. This unusual construction may be attributed to Ilg's mistake in copying.

337 Between 8 May and 7 June "1896".

338 Lit.: "when enough of the new Thalers will have been paid to my government".

339 = Colonel / Count Nicola Leontiev or Leontieff, a Russian officer of the Imperial bodyguard who arrived in Ethiopia in 1895. Menilek was impressed by his dexterity and military ability and appointed him pacifier and governor of the region immediately to the north of Lake Rudolf with the title of Daǧǧāzmāč. But he was too impetuous and independent-minded and he soon ran into conflict with Ilg and other officials. Mén pp. 369 f., 373, 395 and 472.

340 This is probably to be understood in the sense of continent, as their activities were not confined to one particular country.

[developments] profoundly.[341] The reason why we have not put it in a letter is that we assume that Monsieur Leontiev will inform you by word of mouth. We would like, however, to supplicate you for one thing: The something we are bringing with us requires a thousand camels and we can find no other way except through Awsā to transport it to Your Majesty. Hence, we beg your favour to order the army which was sent to Awsā, in case they have already gone up to Šawā, to go quickly back down to Awsā and wait there. It is necessary to have no doubt [about being able] to repulse the forces that may come from this direction, the more so for us.[342] There is no epidemic in Awsā today. There is also an abundance of provisions there. Monsieur Chefneux will come to Awsā and arrange everything by consulting with Rās Walda Giyorgis or any Dağğāzmāč who is there. The reason I am staying here is to help him and to take care of Your Majesty's affairs everywhere. I am longing very much to see Your Majesty, and I beg Your Majesty to listen to what Monsieur Leontiev has to impart and advise so that I may be able to come quickly. May God protect Your Majesty and your country. Amen.

[Written in] Zurich on the 5th day of Yakkātit 1888 [= 12 February 1896].

Say your servants.

Monsieur Chefneux

[signature]: ...

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

146. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 12 February 1896

May it reach Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

Your Majesty,

We pay to you our obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. By the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, we hear splendid news about His Majesty, Your Majesty and your army and, hence, we are exhilarated. And now behold Monsieur Colonel Leontiev is coming to His Majesty. He met with us and discussed everything, and we pray that he may come to you safely. May He enable us all three to serve His Majesty and Your Majesty in full harmony. You will hear about all the important matters from Monsieur Leontiev personally.[343] We pray to God to preserve you and your army.

[Written in] Zurich on the 5th day of Yakkātit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 12 February 1896].

Say your servants.

341 The last phrase is rather vague. It may as well be translated as, "to help intensively".

342 The significance of this sentence, which seems to be incomplete, is unclear.

343 Lit. "... from the mouth of Monsieur Leontiev".

Monsieur Chefneux
[Signature]: ... [Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.
Monsieur Ilg

147. Alfred Ilg to Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē
Zurich 12 February 1896

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my eminent lord, Rās Dārgē. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well through the help of your guardian angel.

By the grace of God and through the help of the guardian angels of His Majesty and yours, behold the war affair has become very useful for Ethiopia. I am exceedingly happy to hear the good news about His Majesty. We - all the friends of His Majesty and of Ethiopia in this country - will help as much as we can. Behold, a friend of the Moscovite king, Monsieur Colonel Leontiev, who is sent to help His Majesty, is coming to His Majesty about a very serious matter; and, hence, I beg you my lord to send him on quickly to His Majesty, providing him well with men and reliable guides so that he will safely travel. My lord, please take this matter to heart. Monsieur Leontiev has consulted with us - Monsieur Chefneux and myself - and we have decided on a very important matter, and, hence, we would be happy if you provided him with men and [see to it] that he comes to His Majesty very soon. We beg you to send him very quickly.

[Written] in the city of Zurich on the 5th day of Yakkātit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 12 February 1896].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.
[Seal]: Monsieur Ilg ... [partially illegible].

148. Alfred Ilg to Walda Giyorgis Abboyyē
Zurich 12 February 1896

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Rās Walda Giyorgis. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I have been exceedingly happy when I heard that you had led a military expedition to Awsā and defeated the Adāl. Congratulations, my lord! Furthermore, the news from His Majesty is all positive. He and his army are well. The enemies are extremely shocked. Now, my lord, Monsieur Colonel Leontiev has had pleasant meetings with me and Monsieur Chefneux and having consulted [with us] on all affairs, he is coming to meet His Majesty. I beg you, my lord, to provide him with men and transport animals rather quickly

and send him to His Majesty. Do not let him delay even for a day, for the matter is very urgent. It is most essential for His Majesty and Ethiopia. Take it to heart, my lord.

[Written in] the city of Zurich on 5th day of Yakkātit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 12 February 1896].

Monsieur Chefneux says, "I pay obeisance wishing that the Saviour of the World give you health".

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

[Seal]: ... [illegible].

149. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Walda Ṣādeq
Zurich 12 February 1896

Sent by Monsieur Ilg and Monsieur Chefneux. May it reach our venerated friend, Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq. We pay to you our obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, our Friend? We, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, are well.

My[344] lord, hurrah! His Majesty, Her Majesty and the whole army are well. Your enemies have fled back and are shocked. With the exception of Italy, our country[345] and the whole of Europe admire and praise the strength and kindness of His Majesty. We, the friends of Ethiopia, are helping according to our ability. Here is now Monsieur Colonel Leontiev on his way to his Majesty, after meeting us and consulting with us over a serious affair, and I beg you, my lord, to furnish him well with men and animals and see to it that he sets off on his way without delay to wherever His Majesty may be. Even if the route is arduous, there is nothing to worry about, for he is a good traveller and your people are strong. I beg you very much to send him quickly.

[Written in] Zurich on the 5th day of Yakkātit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 12 February 1896].

[Signature] Alfred Ilg Ing.

[Seal]: ... [illegible].

150. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Gandabtā Camp 21 February 1896

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

344 Probably a mistake for "our".

345 Probably a mistake for "countries".

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Zurich on the 10th day of December 1895 has reached me. When my men fought and defeated the Italians at the Battle of Alāgē, I sent [word] to Monsieur Mondon to inform you[pl.] [about it], as I was in the campaign. It may have reached you[pl.] already. I had previously sent you [the confirmation] that I received your letters of August, September and that of 10 October. But that of November has not reached me. You sent me [word] stating that "the Italians greatly troubled me so that our concern may not succeed". We have realized how much they troubled you[pl.] when they entered ʾAddi Grat taking with them Afawarq, Gugsā and Qeṭāw. You, however, sent me [word] that they were all right. It is good that a lot of money has been found for the production of the new currency in a large quantity. God willing, I shall finish the Italian war by Genbot [8 May to 6 June] and return. It is not convenient for me these days to have the poles for the telegraph line cut, as I am in a war and the army is mobilized; all will be done when God returns me in safety. As to the proclamation regarding the Thalers, I consent to issue it. I had given an order that the weapons[346] at the coast be transported upland quickly. Maybe they have already been transported. That the matter of Monsieur Leontiev has been successful is fine.

Given at the Camp of Gandabtā on the 14th day of Yakkātit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 21 February 1896].

151. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē Camp 31 March 1896

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 10th of January[347] has reached me. After the Battle of Alāgē, I marched to the land of Tegrē and found the Italians besieged in Maqalē. Then, I freed and sent them away, thinking that reconciliation would be better. But in their arrogance they came upon my camp at ʾAdwā and they were defeated. And now I am returning to Šawā. Why should you be exasperated on account of the Gugsā and Qeṭāw affair? My intention of sending them [abroad] was to enable them to acquire skills they could use to their own

346 Or machine.
347 The date is probably Gregorian. Cf Menilek's letter of 21 February 1896.

advantage. And now, if they go away hating me, let them live in the country they have gone to. Let them go the whole length of their arrogance. They have also sent me a request to allow them to return; I sent them a reply: "You have hated me and are gone; live in the country you went to." Mind you, they are the losers; what harm have they caused me? Actually, you should concentrate on the work for which you went away, and come back here. As to the war affair, I assume Grāzmāč Yosēf will have sent you word. I heard that your wife has given birth to a child. Congratulations! I hope I shall find you already in Addis Ababā. May God enable us to meet again in bodily life.

Given in the Maqalē Camp on the 23rd day of Maggābit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 31 March 1896].

152. Yosēf Neguśē to Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux
Maqalē 31 March 1896

Sent by Grāzmāč Yosēf. May it reach Monsieur Ilg [and] Monsieur Chefneux. How have you been indeed? I, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God, have survived the war unscathed. Seventeen of my men have been killed. Many of my men have been wounded. Here is my report of the war for you:

When His Majesty allowed the besieged Italians at Maqalē to come out, saying that they were Christians and, hence, should not perish through thirst, they came out of the fortress, spent the day taking out their belongings and [they] spread out in the field. After they came out, there was none who would offer them water to drink without the permission of His Majesty. His Majesty granted them permission and they drank. The people who intended to occupy the land from Massawa to the Congo failed to find a mule to transport their belongings from Maqalē to ʾAddi Grat and, hence, they begged His Majesty [for help], for His Majesty is gracious whenever he can.[348] His Majesty benignly availed them of 500 camels and mules - the camels and mules of traders and peasants in Endartā for rent, supplemented by mules of the soldiers - which they loaded and they departed. Galliano[349], too, was given a mule with a richly ornamented[350] saddle which he took with him.

Seeing him [the Emperor] performing all these acts of generosity for his enemies, the

348 The last expression, which is the first in the original, is a part of a couplet widely known in the nineteenth century and often quoted by ostentatious leaders to compare themselves to God. Cf BTAG pp. 441 f.

349 = Major / Colonel Giuseppe Galliano (1846-96), an Italian officer who worked in Eritrea from 1887-96. He fought the Mahdists in western Eritrea and Rās Mangašā at Koʾātit. He commanded the fortress at Maqalē and later joined the main Italian army at ʾAdwā where he was killed. PuDiz p. 137 f.; CRItEt pp. 473 f.

350 The type of ornament is specific in the Amharic. The term "margaf" seems to have no English equivalent. Kane defines it as, "A fringe of conical metal pendants on a ceremonial umbrella, a church roof ornament or a ceremonial Mäsob-basket." Cf KaneDic p. 197.

whole army of His Majesty became unhappy. If it were for a conscientious people that such a benign act was done, they would not make a forced march and wage war, but would rather return to their home country after concluding an agreement and friendship assuming that they would not succeed if they fought such a prudent sovereign. But our friends - the Italians who are cleverer than all other Europeans - mistook His Majesty's kind acts for fear, brought out 4,000 men from Europe and dedicated them to the eagles, as it is said, "Excessive sharpness cuts the scabbard; excessive cleverness leads to death".[351] The Italian women whose children Monsieur Crispi brought out from Europe and let them be killed for nothing on the African soil, just like Herod who caused the destruction of 14,000 children in an attempt to find our Lord,[352] should weep bitterly, just as the prophet says, "A voice was heard, Rachel lamented her children".[353]

As to His Majesty, he sent them [word] saying, "One who comes to occupy the country of someone else comes out into the open and fights; why should one hide in a trench?" As the fortress at ʾAddi Grat was insufficient for them, they entrenched [themselves] at an Enteč̣č̣o mountain more invincible than that of Maqalē. When we came and camped at Farasmāy, they went up to the stronghold and camped there.[354] The place where they camped was declivitous, unfit for foot or horses, [reachable] only with cannons. They fortified the place day and night separating the artillery and infantry sections.

Having seen the invincibility of the place, His Majesty decided not to let his army be exterminated for nothing, and assuming that they would come out into the open when he marched on Asmarā, he intended to march on Asmarā, went down to ʾAdwā and camped there. He divided the army in units and began to make them pack their provisions. But their [the Italians'] spies, who were paid 100 [or] 150 Thalers each and dispatched, were as many as our soldiers. Nevertheless, none escaped. But His Majesty is gracious, and he kept in chains the people who deserved death.

As man proposes, but God disposes,[355] He meant, "Do not go a long way;[356] I will deliver you here". Having seen the army going to fetch provisions, a maimed poor man of ʾAdwā who sought money told them, "The army is gone to fetch provisions; he is sitting alone. Today is your best bet."[357] Assuming that there was no tactician in our home as in theirs and giving ear

351 This quotation, which apparently was extracted from an apocryphal or hagiographical work, could not be identified in the course of the research.

352 Cf Matthew 2:3-19. The number of the victims must have been derived from church traditions.

353 Matthew 2:18 of the King James version says: "In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not".

354 This sentence is vague, because of the verb "watta" which signifies both "to come out" and "to come up". Hence, it can as well be translated, "they came out from the stronghold and camped outside." But the general context seems to justify the one adopted.

355 Lit. "As what God intended is better than what man deliberated."

356 "Mangad aymtaccehu" which literally means "let the road not hit you" is an Amharic expression connoting a long and tiring journey.

357 Lit. "whether you find him or miss him is today".

to the advice of only one person, they descended from the mountain and marched, as I have written[358] to you earlier, arraying three generals with 42 cannons in the forefront, and he himself (Baratieri] in the rear at the head of a general's army as well as the three Dağğāzmāč divisions of Ḥāmāsēn, Sarāyē and Akala Guzāy, and opened fire against the guards of His Majesty early in the morning at five o'clock. When Menilek the lion girded with an iron belt heard this, he arrayed his whole army and came out. From the direction of Māryām Sawito, Rās Mikā'ēl, Ras Mangašā Yoḥannes, Wāg śeyyum Gwāngul and Dağğāč Waldē attacked the left wing. He [Menilek] dispatched Neguś Takla Haymanot to the right wing in the direction of Abbā Garimā. To the centre - His Majesty's own front - were sent Fitāwrāri Gabayyahu[359], Fitāwrāri Taklē, Rās Makwannen, Dağğāč Bašāh[360], and the *Ṭabanğā Yāž.*[361] Next to them were Rās Walē, Rās bitwaddad Mangašā, Turk bāššā Tāmmerē and the *Bārud Bēt*[362]. Next was His Majesty who marched against them [the Italians] having arrayed before him the *Māhal safāri* and advancing the banner and the Nagārit.

Let me tell you a new story which happened at a time when religion is being despised and trust in each other is wanting, a thing which has never happened before, [a thing] which is not found in the Old [Testament] and the Kings,[363] which has not been written in the New [Testament] and [the works of] the kings of kings. [Among] the mighty women who lived during the olden times - though Judith killed Holofernes,[364] it was through seduction by her beauty; though Esther saved her relations from the gallows, it was not through her strength, but because Ahasuerus, the king of Babylon, admired her beauty.[365] Not restricting herself to the activities of prudent women, the new sun - she who is a product of our time, whose wisdom has shone from east to west, whose counsel has been

358 This letter or report could not be identified.

359 A native of Šawā and the military commander of Menilek II in the 1890's. He governed in addition the twin districts of Gollā and Bāsso in eastern Šawā. Mén pp. 24f., 286 f., 339 and passim. HWSBiog p. 88; MSEthCul p. 280.

360 = Bašāh Abboyyē, son of Afa neguś Abboyyē and elder brother to Rās (later Neguś) Walda Giyorgis. He governed Gērā in the 1880s and tried to conquer Kafā. He was killed in the Battle of ʾAdwā. Mén pp. 143, 262, 306 and passim; HWSBiog p. 25; MSEthCul p. 228.

361 The last one was an army contingent fully equipped with firearms and under the command of the Turk bāššā or a Ligābā who in turn was closely attached to the palace. The fact that Turk bāššā Tāmmerē, who was the commander of this contingent in the mid-1880s, held a separate position in this battle may imply that he was no longer the commander of the *Ṭabanğā yāž.*

362 The name of a military contingent.

363 This may possibly be a reference to royal chronicles rather than to the Book of Kings which would otherwise be a mere repetition, as those books are included in the Old Testament.

364 Cf JDT 2,4 and 8,1-14,19; he was an army commander of the Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar. During the siege of Bethulia, the beautiful Judith pretended to sleep with him and decapitated him with a sword. Cf. Reclams Bibellexikon (Stuttgart 1978) p. 219. Hutchinson Encyclopedia (1992) gives the following account: Judith approached Holofernes on the pretext of betraying the besieged Jews. Charming him with her beauty and wit, she made him drunk and cut his head off. Showing it to her countrymen she incited them to attack and rout the army of Nebuchadnezzar. See also Encyclopaedia Britannica - Macropaedia 2 (1979) p. 932.

365 Cf. Book of Esther ch.2 and following.

cherished - the heroine queen of Ethiopia, Empress Ṭāytu, however, began to play the role of heroes. In order to be an example to people who are devoid of love for a home country and religion, she went down on foot having arrayed the artillerymen in the front and the riflemen on the left and the right, ordering the banner of the *Tābot* of Zion to be carried, and making the metropolitan and the *Tābot* of St. Mary as well as the noble ladies and the priests follow: Seeing to the cannons being loaded, she took up position, and as the position became a target for cannon shots, she moved to a fortified position from where she had shots directed across and, hence, they were defeated. This was the beginning of the victory. She also relieved the returning soldiers of their captives and sent them back so that the battle front would not be too sparse. She also spent the day sending us the soldiers who had been left behind to transport munitions. She also sent throughout the day water to the wounded so that they might not die of thirst. Our father, too, spent the day advancing and sending back to the front the soldiers turning back with captives, under the threat of excommunication.[366]

Out of patriotism and being inspired by the determination of our queen, our soldiers pursued their enemies as far as the Marab and fought them for three days. How extremely poor are the states which have no comforting soldier-queen whose help surpasses her counsel, nor a soldier-king, a king of kings who fights ahead of his people! Rejoice Ethiopia! Rejoice Zion! Your children have washed themselves with their own blood for the sake of their country and their religion.

Let us now return to our history. Thereafter, having caused the extermination of his army and having been defeated, General Baratieri escaped on horseback together with a few [men] at 12 o'clock noon. We are told that he arrived in Massawa on horseback on the morning of Tuesday. General Bartoni was taken captive. General Arimondi,[367] General Dabormida[368], General Ellena[369], and Major Galliano died. The Italians taken captive at ʾAdwā are about 2,000. I have earlier conveyed to Monsieur Mondon the number of Italian officers taken captive in Italy[370]. As to the *Bāššibuzuqoč*,[371] they fled at the beginning of the

366 The original is rather categorical with the excommunication. But, if at all, it was probably pronounced conditionally.

367 = General Giuseppe Edoardo Arimondi (1846-96). He arrived in northeast Africa in 1887 and held various offices including acting governor of Eritrea. His main assignment was western Eritrea where he fought against the Mahdists and various local groups. In 1894-95, he fought against Rās Mangašā in Akkala Guzāy and subsequently commanded the ʾAddi Grat front. He was killed in the Battle of ʾAdwā. Cf. PuDiz pp. 23 f.

368 = General Vittorio Dabormida (1842-96); assigned to Eritrea at his own request in January 1896, commanded the right column at the Battle of ʾAdwā where he was killed in action. PuDiz p. 97.

369 = General Giuseppe Ellena (b. 1839), an Italian artillery officer who was professor for hydraulics and architecture. He arrived in Eritrea in February and received various assignments under Baratieri. He was wounded in the Battle of ʾAdwā and returned to Italy shortly thereafter. PuDiz p. 118.

370 This is obviously a mistake for Alāgē or Maqalē.

371 Plural of *Bāššibuzuq*, "A regiment under Rās Makwannen in Ḥarar and which was trained by Egyptian and Turkish officers in the use of firearms and cannons. It was apparently named after the Turkish guards, ... Later, the term was applied to any military contingent which went over to the side of the

battle saying, "Though we have received their money, we shall not fight our country [and] our king." He [Menilek] had earlier amnestied the *Bāššibuzuq* taken captive at Alāgē, and those of them found in [this] victory have been severely punished.

As to the Italian captives, they are kept properly - the officers according to their order of command and the soldiers in accordance with their ranks - those in need being given clothes, and the wounded being treated by the mobilized physicians, for His Majesty knows that they were forced to come through the haughtiness of one person. Where are all those[372] partisans of Crispi who used to campaign with the lead ink in Addis Ababā? Were it not better to be present in a serious venue and avenge one's grievances than stealing small children from school![373] However, lead[374] ink never mixes with gold ink in harmony, and it has been revealed today that it is not their place.[375]

As to Ethiopia, she glorified herself exceedingly. Though it is her custom always to win victory, she had striven as much as possible for reconciliation so that no Christian blood should be spilt. At the crucial time, the priests who carry the cross and the women who hold the distaff fought for her more than those who possessed the pen and the lead-ink. There is also [another] amazing thing: we are told that Italy - the country of Constantine and Queen Helena[376] - had many sovereigns in the olden times.[377] However it may have been destroyed and however it may be too recently revived, has it no elders other than Crispi that it sent an army to destroy the old kingdom which has never been crushed from the time of Negeśta Azēb[378] to the time of Menilek II? If he is the only one, should he not be brought to justice? As he is the son of Nero, he should climb the Consutal[?] wall, put fire to the city of Rome, call singers to him and sing.[379]

A man named Major Salsa[380] was shuttling before the battle claiming reconciliation. After the army has been defeated and Baratieri has fled to Massawa, we see someone who

enemy." Cf. BTAG p. 893. Kane identifies it with Turkish 'bašbazuq' and defines the term as "Military title, approximately sergeant, used by Eritrean levies in Italian service." Cf. KaneDic p. 903.

372 Namely, Antonelli, Salimbieni, Traversi, etc.

373 The last phrase of this sentence says literally: "... weaning children from school". It is not clear to which incident the allusion is made, though Antonelli might have been the likeliest case. Cf docs. 82 and 83 supra.

374 "Ersas" or "resas" refers to lead, pencil and bullet.

375 The significance of this statement is obscure.

376 = St. Helena (ca. 248-328), wife of Constantius I Chlorus and mother of Constantine the Great. She is reputed to be the discoverer of Christ's Cross. Ency.Brit. - Micropaedia IV (1979) p. 998.

377 Obviously, this is a confusion of the Roman and the Byzantine Empire.

378 Lit. "Queen of the Southeast" or "Queen of the South" as in Matthew 12:42 and Luke 11:31. Her other name is Negeśta Sābā = the Queen of Sheba.

379 The last phrase implies that the singing is meant in disfavour, or to the disadvantage of Rome.

380 = Tommaso Salsa (1857-1913), an Italian officer who served in Eritrea in the 1890s. He fought against the Mahdists in western Eritrea and against Rās Mangašā in Akkala Guzāy. He participated in the Battle of ʾAdwā from which he escaped unscathed. General Baldissera eventually sent him a couple of times to the camp of the Emperor to negotiate a peace treaty. He was subsequently replaced in this function by Nerazzini and returned to Italy. He was later promoted to colonel and general respectively. PuDiz p. 264.

has neither the skill of war nor of peace - one who escaped by flight from the Battle of ʾAdwā - shuttling with the claim of making peace. We are told, however, that His Majesty allegedly said: "Anyone wishing peace should come to my capital city Addis Ababā and let me know." He sent both the envoy and the captives to Šawā.

The news that has come to us from Awsā is as follows: Muḥammad Anfali[381] - drunk with the poison of Antonelli and Abdruhman - has hitherto lived as a rebel selling slaves via Asab. Whenever His Majesty sent him words of advice, he gave friendly replies, but continued his rebellion until today. He received a flag from the Italians and had it hoisted in Awsā, our country. One Captain Persico[382] was stationed in Awsā at the head of 500 soldiers. The Italians had planned that when His Majesty went to ʾAdwā, they would seduce the Adāl into rebellion, buy the Argobbā with money and penetrate Ankobar from behind his back. His Majesty, however, had perceived their intrigue and sent an expedition at the time he started out from Addis Ababā: Rās Walda Giyorgis, Daǧǧāč Tasammā and Azzāž Walda Tadiq[383]. When they arrived in Awsā, two sons of Muḥammad Anfali fought for two days; they were defeated and killed. 4,957 Adāl died. The number of the rest who fled and were drowned in the sea[384] is unknown. A great deal of rifles were captured. Many camels and cattle were also captured. Muḥammad Anfali and Abdruhman fled and escaped. They [the victors] hoisted the flag in the country, left watchmen[385] behind and came back. The root of Crispi's scheme has been severed.

As to Captain Persico, he came round via Massawa and was killed at Alāgē.[386] The soldiers of His Majesty who were killed at ʾAdwā are 3,866. The Italian (white) soldiers killed [and/or] taken captive at ʾAdwā are 1,785. The *Bāššibuzuq* are 4,471. The number of those killed by the peasants [and] by the men of Rās Sebḥāt is unknown. Thereafter, on their way to Massawa, the *Bāššibuzuq* and the Italian soldiers fought each other above Saḥaṭi. The *Bāššibuzuq* won.

The hero nobles of Menilek II who were killed in the Battle of ʾAdwā are the following: Daǧǧāč Bašāh, Daǧǧāč Čāčā[387], Daǧǧāč Mānnāyyā, Fitāwrāri Gabayyahu, Fitāwrāri Taklē, Fitāwrāri Dāmṭaw, Fitāwrāri Walda Mikāʿēl, Fitāwrāri Šankoru of Daǧǧāč Bašāh, Qañňāzmāč Tāffasa, Qañňāzmāč Abbāynah (the father of Qañňāzmāč Tāffasa),

381 = Ḥānfāri.

382 = Salvatore Persico (1862-95), an Italian officer who served in Eritrea in the late 1880s and 90s. He fought against the Mahdists in western Eritrea and commanded a contingent in Awsā in 1894-95. He was killed with Toselli at Ambā Alāgē on 17 December 1895. PuDiz p. 236 f.; Anthony d'Avray, Lords of the Red Sea. The History of a Red Sea Society from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Centuries (Wiesbaden 1996) = ÄthFor 45, pp. 268 f.

383 = Ṣādeq.

384 Lake?

385 A garrison?

386 From this sentence onward, the calligraphy of the original varies, apparently more than one person having taken part in the writing.

387 Native of northeastern Šawā and probably of Oromo origin. He governed various small districts including Gollā. He was killed in the Battle of ʾAdwā. Mén p. 446.

Qañňāzmāč Tasammā Waldē, Qañňāzmāč Bašāh of Rās Makwannen, Bālāmbārās Balaw, Bālāmbārās Sayfu, Bālāmbārās Adarā. The notables who were killed at Alāgē are: Fitāwrāri Endārgē, Dağğāč Gārradaw, Grāzmāč Garrede (brother to Fitāwrāri Gabayyahu). The soldiers [killed] at Alāgē and Maqalē have, however, not yet been counted. This is the latest news.

In former times, one could win a victory after sacrificing many men. Today, however, we know that a man who has seen the sacrificed men of Italy and those of Ethiopia cannot believe it. But one who has seen the Italians who had escaped[388] realizes it. But I am writing on the basis of the new Viterli rifles that have been counted in. The number of those killed by the peasants, and whose Viterlis were taken away, is unknown. I had sent earlier to Monsieur Mondon the number of the Italian officers who have been taken captives. You[pl.] will find it there.

Written in the Maqalē camp on the 23rd day of Maggābit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 31 March 1896].

G. Joseph Ngoossè

[Seal]: Grasmac Jusef

Grāzmāč Yosēf.

153. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē Camp 31 March 1896

Sent by Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē[389], the Royal Privy Secretary. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. I give you my greetings! How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

By the grace of God, I have survived the Italian war. May God bring you back in safety and enable us to see each other with bodily eyes.

Written at Maqalē Camp on the 23rd day of Maggābit 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 31 March 1896].

[Seal]: Gabra Śellāsē, the Royal Privy Secretary.[390]

388 Lit. "who returned". This refers to those who escaped from the battlefield, excluding the captives.

389 = Ṣaḥafē teʿezāz Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy (ca. 1844-1912), Imperial privy secretary and Minister of the Pen. He was church educated and was attached to the Imperial court since around 1876. A few years before his death, he was appointed Neburaʿed of the Zion church of Addis ʾAlam. The authorship of the most detailed chronicle of Emperor Menilek II is attributed to him. Mén pp. v-vii, 167 f., 329 and passim; HWSBiog p. 91; MSEthCul p. 283.

390 Cf. Mén fig. 27.

154. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
... 30 April "1896"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. My brother, How have you been? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.
As for me, I have survived the war. I am [however] disappointed that no letter has come from you. May God enable us to meet in life. And now, never mind about my health; I request you to let me know about your health.

Written on the 23rd day of Miyāzyā [= 30 April "1896"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

155. Ṭāytu Beṭul To Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 23 June 1896

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your greetings have reached me. By the grace of God, I have come back safely from the expedition. I had wishfully assumed that you would come back before We came back from Tegrē and wait for me in Addis Ababā. Why is your return delayed? Grāzmāč Yosēf will report all the news to you.[391]

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 17th day of Sanē 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 23 June 1896].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

156. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 11 August "1896"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? How are you getting on healthwise? Did you finish the journey safely? Did you find your children, wife and house in safety? I, thank God, am so far well. Above all, let it be that you please notify me about the state of your health.[392] May God give you health.

391 The said official had already sent his report [cf doc. 152. supra] on 31.3.96. Apparently, the Empress was unware of his act.

392 Ilg returned from Europe to Ethiopia in the summer of 1896. This was the time of the rainy season during which almost all traffic seized because of the muddy or swampy roads and the dangerous river currents. Hence, his journey is a special topic in this and the subsequent letters.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 6th day of Naḥasē [= 11 August "1896"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

157. Walda Ṣādeq to Alfred Ilg
"Ankobar" 12 August "1896"

Sent by Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. Did you arrive well? Did you travel across the bog safely? May Christ, the God of Abraham, enable us to see each other again in life.

Written on the 7th day of Naḥasē [= 12 August "1896"].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq.

158. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Cesare Nerazzini
Ḥarar 13 August 1896

Copie

Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and its regions[393]. May it reach Major Nerazzini. Greetings to you.[394]

I have passed on the letter you wrote in the town of Zeila to His Majesty on the 27th day of Sanē 1896 of the Year of Grace.[395] His Majesty saw the substance of your letter which pleased him, as it reminded him of our former friendship. Permission has been granted to you to go up to His Majesty. If you are coming, let me for the sake of our friendship give you some useful hints before you start out from Zeila. His Majesty, Menilek II, is not reluctant to revive the lost friendship with Italy. In fact, he desires it. Hence, if your government is interested in resuming friendship with Ethiopia, the best way is for me to point out to you His Majesty's view. First, unless the Weċālē Treaty is totally abrogated, and the Italian

393 The term "Awrāğğā" was ambiguous until after 1941 when it was restricted to mean an administrative, geographical unit smaller than a governorate-general.

394 Lit. "May my greeting be to you."

395 The latter part of this sentence, and the concluding statement of the letter which omits a traditional phrase completely, are rather perplexing in structure as well as dating: "1896" pertains certainly to the Gregorian calendar, while "the Year of Grace" unusually precedes the date as in the case of A.D. (cf note 27 supra). This raises several questions: did the translator of Nerazzini's letter render the name of the month into Amharic and leave the date unconverted? Did Ilg make a mistake in the process of copying from the original/copy, or did Ilg himself draft the letter in Addis Ababā on behalf of the Rās and fail to pay attention to the calendaric differences? Assuming that the month and day in this statement were Ethiopian, the Gregorian equivalent would have been 3 July.

government accepts and recognizes that Ethiopia is a sovereign state, self-sufficient and with a free government, and that this is agreed upon witnessed by our neighbouring European governments,[396] I doubt if the purpose of your travel can be achieved. Do not make the journey in vain.[397] It will not be easy for you to do anything that may benefit the captives. Unless you bear genuine, proper credentials - signed by the sovereign, the foreign affairs minister and the minister of war and validated by your government's seal - which confirm your plenipotentiary status and authorize you to accomplish all these things we spoke of, His Majesty will not receive you at all in audience. You have to know this in advance. The reason why I indicate to you, my friend, all these things in detail is so that you may understand His Majesty's view before you set out and that the road may not hit out at you hard in vain. If you come to conclude these two major points by a treaty, the remaining matters are not difficult. His Majesty has no intention other than to renew the friendship. As a matter of fact, he may help you accomplish quickly the matter you are sent for. I, too, will not let[398] you down with my usual friendship and respect. What we agreed upon with Major Salsa as he departed and His Majesty accompanied him as far as Qobbo was as follows: until such a time when a major envoy plenipotentiary of the Italian government came who could negotiate and conclude a treaty on the question of peace, [both] agreed that your army should not traverse the Marab nor should ours go across. Your coming is appropriate, if you are in a position to delineate the boundary on paper, as His Majesty had said, hand it in to us and depart after receiving ours. May He give you health.

Written on the 8th day of Naḥasē 1888 [= 13 August 1896].

159. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʾēl
Addis Ababā 19 August "1896"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my honourable lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been my lord? I, thank God, am well.

I joined His Majesty and Her Majesty safely. We discussed many affairs. All things are going fine. And now, it would be good if Dr. Nerazzini could come soon. It is not good if we delay the peace negotiations too long. It is better if the captives go home soon. However, this cannot happen without concluding peace. It would also be good if you for your part send any news you find to His Majesty quickly. Do not rest. The response of Monsieur Lagarde has not come yet.[399] I think a copy of the treaty is with you. It would be

396 France and Great Britain(?).
397 Lit. "Let not the road hit you in vain".
398 Lit. "... will not forget you".
399 This sentence can also be translated as, "The return of Monsieur Lagarde is not yet."

good if you could quickly send it to His Majesty. Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē has told me that he has before this requested [you] to send it to him. But it has not yet come. His Majesty received the Russians [and] the Wēsoč[400] well and has made them stay in comfort. This year, Addis Ababā is full of *Farangi*[401]. We, the old, are extremely astonished. Actually, it would have been better for us to live as we did before. It is too much today. Please forward overseas quickly the enclosed two letters - for my wife and Monsieur Bouvet. I entreat with you, my lord, that they be not put aside and forgotten. Do not forget me, my lord.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 14th day of Naḥasē [= 19 August "1896"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

160. Cesare Nerazzini to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Zeila 20 August 1896

Sent by Major Nerazzini, envoy plenipotentiary of the king of Italy. May it reach my friend, Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarargē and its regions. Greetings in great friendship.

I have received and read your letters [sic] written on the 7th day of Naḥasē. You have done very well in giving me your advice; and I thank you very much. A true friend should be just as you are. Behold I give you a reply in short. Know that I am fully authorized. I possess everything you required. I bear credentials with the seal of King Umberto I empowering me to negotiate any treaty with the King of Kings of Ethiopia and to sign my name on our new treaty of peace[402]. With regard to the boundary left open in the north, I shall sign my name underneath in accordance with the number His Majesty, King Umberto, has written.[403] He [Umberto] has written about this matter to His Majesty, Emperor Menilek. I will show you my credentials of plenipotentiary when I travel through Ḥarargē. I shall immediately send someone to Aden to communicate to my government Emperor Menilek's view by telephone[404] tomorrow. As to the negotiations, I shall make some readjustment.[405] Now, however, I should like to let you know that I cannot enter Ethiopia before receiving His Majesty Emperor Menilek's letter insuring the protection of my life[406]. This is a definite order I have received from my government. I hope this letter of His Majesty is on the way. I pray you to make it

400 This term is not identified, as the first Ethiopic letter is scarcely legible. The nearest word is "qēsoč" = priests, but this makes sense in this context only if the "m" at the end of the preceding term is a mistake for "n". In that case, the allusion may be to the Papal emissary and his followers who came to intercede on behalf of the war captives.

401 The whites, particularly of European origin. The Greeks and Armenians dissociated themselves consciously from this appellation, because of its religious implications.

402 Lit. "reconciliation".

403 This sentence is rather cryptic in the original and, hence, its significance is not quite clear.

404 Or telegraph as "Selk" was used then for both.

405 This sentence is poorly written and cannot be translated with surety.

406 Lit. "body" or "person". This is probably a reference to diplomatic immunity.

reach me speedily so that I may be able to start out soon. I thank you for allowing me to send things to the captives. This is indeed an act of Christianity. The blessing of God will descend upon you. I will pack the luggage rapidly, and dispatch it to you. Have an account kept of the expenses you incur by sending them to Šawā and I will fully reimburse you. As to the matter of the guns, I will inform the British governor about it, and I will send you the reply he gives me. So, please make His Majesty's entry permit available. I am waiting. I beseech you [for it], as I should like to accomplish it [my mission] quickly. It is better to do things well and according to the law. This permission is necessary, so that the Italian government may stay calm and unperturbed concerning me. May God give you health.

Written in Zeila on 20 August 1896. When you sent me letters of His Majesty and your own, the messengers frequently fell ill on the way and delayed. Hence, I beg you to send to me two messengers at a time.

[Signature]: ...

Hakim Nerazzini

161. Menilek II to Léonce Lagarde
Addis Ababā 1 September 1896

Copie

The Lion ... hath prevailed. ...

May it reach Monsieur Lagarde, minister plenipotentiary and governor of Djibouti. Peace be unto thee.

As the honourable French president, in his letter of the 3rd day of Sanē[407] 1896 of the year of Grace addressed to Us, has graciously communicated to Us saying, "We have authorized our officials, whom His Majesty knows and who are in Your neighbourhood, to examine and regulate the place[s] on the basis of our long-standing friendship, in full accord with Your officials in Ḥarar and the localities close to Djibouti and as they see it fit in the interest of our two countries, and as the route to Djibouti is settled, we entrust His Majesty to give orders necessary for the making of the adjustment," I have sent the letter written on the 3rd day of Sanē 1896 of the Year of Grace to Rās Makwannen so that you[408] may in friendly consultations and harmony with Rās Makwannen, the governor of Ḥarargē, execute it.[409] May God praise you for praying to God on Our behalf and that of Our government for health and peace. May God give you longevity and health.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 27th day of Naḥasē 1888 of the Year of Grace [= 1 September 1896].

407 See notes 27 and 395 supra.

408 In the plural form.

409 This statement is too long and so ill-constructed that some phrases could be translated slightly different, depending on how one reads them.

162. Menilek II to Félix Faure
Addis Ababā 1 September 1896

Copie
The Lion ... hath prevailed. ...
May it reach Our highly venerated and respected friend, Monsieur Félix Faure, the President of the French Republic[410]. Peace be unto you.

I have received your honourable, pleasant [and] beautiful letter written in the city of Paris on the 3rd day of Sanē 1896 of the Year of Grace[411] which stated the acceptance of the treaty between our two governments concluded on the 1st day of Maggābit 1887 [= 9 March 1895] of the Year of Grace and which I had sent you. And now I am exceedingly delighted to see your reply in friendship. As Your Excellency[412] has proposed, I have authorized my official in Ḥarargē, Rās Makwannen, to settle in accord and friendship with the officials in Djibouti the questions related to that[413] which is from Djibouti as far as Ḥarar, the place[s] and other minor things. I am hopeful that these officials of our two governments will realize our wishes properly. As to the treaty I sent you in Maggābit[414], I found out that the scribes made some orthographic and numeric mistakes; and as We are now sending you what We had corrected and rewritten well, I request you to send back to me the document which I sent you earlier in Maggābit. Excepting orthographic corrections, there have however, been no additions or omissions made. We pray to God to guard the French state and your life.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 27th day of Naḥasē 1888 [= 1 September 1896] of the Year of Grace.

163. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Addis Ababā 6 September "1896"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

We had hoped that Hakim [physician] Nerazzini would come to us soon. Now that he has

410 "Mangeśt", which signifies government, country, Empire, etc., can as well be translated in this context by "state".
411 The dates in this statement are obviously Gregorian and, hence, "Sanē" is to be read "June". The Ethiopian phrase "Year of Grace" is presumably added habitually.
412 Lit. "as president ...".
413 Here is probably something missing, possibly the railway or telegraph line.
414 This seventh month of the Ethiopian calendar covers the period 9 March to 7 April of that particular year.

failed to come, we are worried. I request you, my lord, to send him these letters[415] of His Majesty immediately. Do not let them delay.[416] I have sent him [word] to come speedily. Please take care of my servant, Gabrē, until he comes back. Let him bring the reply rapidly. I was very disappointed when I heard that our firearms were withheld at the coast[417]. However, we shall not be short of a device. Do not raise this matter when Hakim Nerazzini comes. This is our affair, not His Majesty's. Please keep it to yourself. Tell him that you do not know about it, if he asks. His Majesty has told me that Rās Makwannen will come [here] together with the physician, if Nerazzini's credentials are those of a plenipotentiary. Therefore, let me please know in advance the dates of your departure from there and your arrival here[418]. Let messengers come now and then. And now, may God protect you till we meet.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 2nd day of Ṗāgumē[n] [= 6 September "1896"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

164. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
"Ḥarar" 7 September "1896"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my honourable friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How are you healthwise? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent has reached me. I have forwarded those you requested me to send down [to the coast]. I sent [them] to the Djibouti official requesting him to forward them quickly. Whatever news I find here, I will send quickly to His Majesty. However, there is difficulty here finding confirmed news. As to the treaty document you mentioned, I have sent it to Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē. It may already have arrived. Hakim Nerazzini has started out from Zeila. He will arrive in Ḥarargē within four to five days. However many the *Faranǧi* in Addis Ababā may be, we hold the old reliable ones in better esteem. What use does the rest have? And now, let it be that you please write to me about everything, for you are the only friend I have.

Written on the 3rd day of Ṗāgumēn [= 7 September "1896"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

415 The equivalent in the original is in the singular, but the adverb "tolo, tolo" = "quickly, quickly" implies repetition of the dispatches.
416 Lit. "Let them not [wait] day and night".
417 Lit. "at the sea".
418 Lit. "... reaching His Majesty".

165. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 15 September 1896

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God am well.

My lord, handing him an important letter, I have sent to you my servant, Dabalā. My friend, Monsieur Garrigue[419], should phone Djibouti, for my wife is coming together with my son from my country. I will have to make someone phone so that she may not be confused [at the port].[420] Hence, I entreat with you, my lord, to send the letter to Djibouti by a swift-footed camel as soon as Dabalā arrives. Do not delay a day or night. In case there is no camel available, have a strong messenger go down in a forced march. He should by any means reach Djibouti by the morrow of St. George's day[421]. I will start out from here on the morrow of Masqal[422] and I will come to you in a forced march. I will go from there to Djibouti, receive my wife and come back to Ḥarargē. And now, to avoid confusion, please send the letter quickly to Djibouti on my behalf. Please, my lord, treat Dabalā well until I come. Furthermore, give him the mule left behind in your care. In case no one is available, I have ordered Dabalā to carry the letter himself [to Djibouti] and [in that case] please give him a guide. I beg you to let him go quickly, my lord. May God reward you bountifully for everything.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 6th day of Maskaram 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 15 September 1896].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

166. Ṗēṭros to Alfred Ilg
Ṣelāleš 17 September 1896

[Seal]: Ṗēṭros, Archbishop of the Empire of Ethiopia.[423]

An epistle sent by Ṗēṭros[424], Metropolitan of the Empire of Ethiopia, servant and apostle

419 This person could not be identified in the course of the research. The spelling of his name is also uncertain.

420 Lit. "so that she may not mistake the ship." Maybe he feared that she might remain on board the ship which would voyage further.

421 = 2 October.

422 = 26 September.

423 This seal is in three languages: Coptic[?], Arabic and Geᶜez. Cf. Mén fig. 46.

424 = Abuna Ṗēṭros, the Coptic metropolitan of Ethiopia who arrived in his diocese together with three bishops in 1881. Upon the death of Yoḥannes IV and the succession of Menilek II to the Imperial throne, Abuna Mātēwos replaced him as metropolitan, but Ṗēṭros retained northern Ethiopia as his diocese, though he was kept in Šawā for political reasons for some years. In May 1914 he crowned Rās Mikāᶜēl

to Jesus Christ, and son to St. Mark, the Evangelist.[425] May it reach my son [and] friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, your father, am well, thank God.

When you left before this, you departed without bidding me farewell. When you came back, you failed to send me [news of your return]. Why, is that all there is to our friendship? And now, hurrah that you have come safely! If the article I requested you to purchase for me has come, jot down its price on a piece of paper and send it me through Blāttā Gabru[426]. May God bless you [and] sanctify you. May God enable us to meet again.

Written at Dabra Ṣelāleš on the 8th day of Maskaram 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 17 September 1896].

167. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 17 September "1896"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my honourable friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How are you healthwise? I, thank God, am well.

Behold, Major Nerazzini has arrived in Ḥarar. He will soon start out and come [to you]. I, too, will start out on the morrow of the Masqal[427] and come [to you]. Monsieur Chefneux may possibly catch up with me. We may come together. As to the weapons affair, I told the Russians who asked me about it, "The traders are talking about it just like that. But I have heard nothing of the sort." The people have also not heard about it.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 8th day of Maskaram [= 17 September "1896"]. [Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

168. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 30 September 1896

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

of Wallo Negus, with whom he was taken captive two years later. He was again kept in Šawā until his death in 1921. Cf. The Coptic Encyclopedia IV (New York 1991) p. 1038.

425 This opening sentence is in Geᶜez after the fashion of the tradition of Ethiopian letter-writing. It is interesting that he still styled himself archbishop many years after he had been replaced in that position by Abuna Mātēwos.

426 This person has not been identified. There were several minor officials by the same name in this period.

427 A holiday of the Cross celebrated at the end of September marking the end of the rainy season.

Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

I have granted permission to Monsieur Ilg to travel to his home country, and, hence, do not hinder him on the way taking him for an Italian. Let it also be that you treat him well and escort him through wherever he arrives at.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 21st day of Maskaram 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 30 September 1896].

169. Anonymous to Anonymous
Addis Ababā 1 October "1896"

I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Your honourable letter has reached me. May God reward you bountifully on my behalf. Hakim Nerazzini arrived safely the day before yesterday. His Majesty received him well. The Russians will depart from here for Ḥarargē on the 11th day of Ṭeqqemt [= 20 October]. The sick, the wounded and all the country people praise them greatly. It is rumoured that Monsieur Chefneux will arrive in Addis Ababā on Sunday[428]. They say that Monsieur Audon will arrive today. His Majesty has given an order for the preparation of a house. But he [Audon] is unpopular, as he is coming empty-handed. And now please send immediately shoes for the captives somehow; include also clothes if possible. I entreat with you, Sir, says your friend.

[Written in] Addis Ababā on the 22nd of Maskaram [= 1 October "1896"].

[Signature]: ... [illegible]

170. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 3 October 1896

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. Rās Makwannen has notified me that Monsieur Chefneux has arrived in Ḥarargē. Together with the letter of Rās Makwannen, I found one addressed to you and, hence, I am sending it to you. I believe it is a letter of Monsieur Chefneux.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 24th day of Maskaram 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 3 October 1896].

428 = 4 October.

171. Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 25 October 1896

Sent by Monsieur Ilg and Monsieur Chefneux. May it reach our venerated lord and friend, Rās Makwannen. We pay to you our obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Our lord!

Tidings, rejoice! His Majesty and Major Nerazzini have concluded a treaty of peace; it will be sealed tomorrow. The agreement includes the sovereignty of Ethiopia, the abrogation of the Treaty of Weċālē, the arrangement of the boundary at a later date, the respect of the status quo by both governments until then, and the payment by the Italians of the expenses for the captives according to their[429] judgment. They have agreed upon these [points]. Now, Monsieur Chefneux and Major Nerazzini will be coming to Ḥarargē, and Monsieur Chefneux will impart to you [some] secrets. We[430] have devised it skilfully so that Ethiopia may not be disadvantaged and so that His Majesty may benefit by it. Permission has been granted for the Italian Red Cross to come as far as Gildēssā to take over the captives. But they shall leave [only] when the treaty comes back after being sealed by Italy. Perhaps, only about 200 will leave with Major Nerazzini.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 16th day of Ṭeqqemt [= 25 October "1896"].

[Signature] Alfred Ilg Ing.

172. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 December 1896

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent me has reached me. I was exceedingly happy when I heard that your wife has recovered from her illness. Assuming that you will come back soon, I am having your house built well. In an attempt to acquaint Addis Ababā with the new Thaler, I have caused butchers' shops - where meat is sold - and drinking houses to open. In case there are in

429 The last phrase can also be translated as: "in accordance with the verdict".

430 Actually, the equivalent of "I" is used in the original, though the verb is used in the plural.

Djibouti *Rub*[431] and *Temun*[432] coins minted with my effigy, let it be that you send me by quick transport one or two camel loads of *Rub* and *Temun* coins, for it will take time before Monsieur Chefneux sends them to me. I am also exceedingly happy to hear that the gold-mining engineer has come. And now I have sent to Rās Makwannen [an order] that he should immediately start out together with his equipment, and you, too, should see to it that he starts out quickly. Furthermore, you sent me [news] that the engineers who will construct the railway had arrived and that the work would soon start; let it be that you discuss it with Rās Makwannen when you come through Ḥarargē. I have also sent a message to him.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 7th day of Tāḥśāś 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 15 December 1896].

173. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 16 January "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been since we separated and until now? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

Let it be that you send me all news of your traversing the wilderness in safety and of your having audience with His Majesty. Give also my compliments to your wife inquiring how she is doing and whether she managed the route well.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 9th day of Ṭer [= 16 January "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen

174. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 17 January "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been since we separated and until now? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

At the time Ato Ṗāwlos[433] came, I had written to you a letter. Why have you not written

431 Lit. "a quarter": a coin representing a quarter of Menilek's Thaler. Cf. Richard Pankhurst, Economic History of Ethiopia 1800-1935 (Addis Ababā 1968) p. 481.

432 Also Tamun, "A coin amounting in value to one-eighth of a Ber or Taler. It was minted in Addis Ababā in 1903." Cf. BTAG p. 977; Mén p. 539; Lincoln de Castro, Nella terra dei Negus I-II (Milano 1915) I plate XLIV; Richard Pankhurst, Economic History of Ethiopia 1800-1935 (Addis Ababā 1968) p. 481.

433 The governor of Bālčі in Karrayu and in charge of the route from Šawā to Ḥarar. Almost all travellers mentioned him by name, but apparently none recorded his biography.

me a reply and about all other things? Your parcels have not yet come until now. At the moment, there are only 30 boxes at Gildēssā. I do not know if the rest has been transported via the lower route. As soon as others come, I will have them all transported together via the lower route. How is the health of your wife? Is she not well? Give my compliments to her. Furthermore, let it be that you write me a reply and about all other things.

10 Ṭer[434] [= 17 January "1897"].[435]

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

175. Menilek II's Certificate of Order Awarded to Tschussef
Addis Ababā 24 January 1897

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, Elect of God,
King of Kings of Ethiopia.

I give my greetings to all who see this letter. Just as the sovereigns who - through their intellect and knowledge and through their power and sagacity have become glorious - exalt their heroes and friends as well as their servants, so do We award the First Class of Our Solomon Order to the physician, Tschussef, one of the Russian Red Cross Physicians who came to serve the Ethiopian government, and who remained behind to treat patients. We have also granted him permission to wear this decoration on the chest.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 17th day of Ṭer 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 24 January 1897].

176. Neguś Takla Haymanot to Alfred Ilg
Dabra Māreqos 3 February "1897"

Sent by Neguś Takla Haymanot, follower of the true Faith, son of St. Mark the Evangelist. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well. How is your health?

I sent you earlier a letter through the hands of Kendē. Having failed to find you, he came back. And now I am sending Kendē with an oral message. Let him tell you all. Were you not intending to get me the bridge builder, Monsieur Binē[436]? Why did he fail to come?

434 This date was placed below the seal probably by someone else who noticed that the letter was without a date.

435 This date was apparently added later on perhaps by somebody else.

436 This was possibly Costanzo Bonetti, an Italian engineer, who tried to work in Ethiopia before he settled in Eritrea.

And now, send me [word] through Kendē about the matter.

Written in the town of Dabra Māreqos on the 27th day of Ṭer [= 3 February "1897"].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Neguś Takla Haymanot, King of Kafā, crowned by Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia

177. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarargē 17 February "1897"

May it reach my highly adored master, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance many times[437] wishing, my lord, that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Have you been in good health, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

By the grace of the Trinity, behold we have arrived in Ḥarargē. The Rās has also received us well. So far we are doing well in everything. Master, what I have given you on earth, I will demand of you in heaven; I beg you to care for my father. Even master Major entrusted [him] to you at the time of his departure. And now, master, do not forget me either. Write me a letter when possible, for you know the practice of the land of the *Farangi*. If you could include the words of my father, you would be rewarded by the Trinity. Master, keep my name on paper so that you may not forget it. Finally, may the Redeemer of the World safeguard you, my master, and enable me to see you again in peace. "Do not forget me," says your son through the Holy Spirit, Ganno.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 11th day after the month of Yakkātit began [= 17 February "1897"]. It is written on the 27th day after we left Addis Ababā. We reached Ḥarargē in 24 days; we rested for three days on the way.

178. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Qunni 7 March 1897

Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar. May it reach my friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? How is your wife getting on? I, thank God, am well.

I should be pleased if you would let me know the state of your health and whether your wife has been acclimatized. May He give you health. Please convey my greetings to your wife.

Written in Qunni on 29 Yakkātit 1889 [= 7 March 1897].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

437 Lit. "ten, ten times". The expression still exists in contemporary Amharic.

179. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
Djibouti 15 March "1897"

May it reach my highly adored master, Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance many times[438] wishing, my lord, that the Redeemer of the World give you health, How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank the Redeemer of the World, am well.

Behold, my lord, we have reached Djibouti by the will of the Trinity and under the protection of your guardian angel. We arrived in Djibouti one month and 22 days after we left Addis Ababā. So we have now boarded the ship. I suppose by the time this letter reaches you we shall arrive in Russia. And now, my lord, do not forget me. I have also laid upon you the care of my father. Let the Trinity make us meet in Jerusalem.[439] May the God of Israel enable us to meet each other in safety, says your son in the Holy Spirit, the servant of His Majesty, Ganno, the guard.

Written in Djibouti on the 7th day after the month of Maggābit began [= 15 March "1897"]. My lord, when I henceforth send a letter to Šawā, it is you who will receive it and hand it over to my father. My letters will in any case come to you in the future.

180. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 17 March "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How is your health? Isn't your wife in good health? I, thank God, am well.

With regard to your things, I have charged Ato Maršā and another person [to take care of them]. While they were waiting [for them], they trickled in one by one and so far there is a total of only 80 boxes. 17 boxes are missing. I have now had those that have arrived loaded and sent via the lower route. I will send the remaining 17 boxes as soon as they reach me. You should not have the impression that I have been lax or that something was behind it.

Written in the town of Qullubbi on the 9th day of Maggābit [= 17 March "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen

438 Cf note 301 supra.
439 This expression is rather peculiar, though its meaning is not difficult to guess.

181. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 23 March "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How is your health? How is your wife getting on? Is she acclimatized? I, thank God, am well.

What has happened? What did we agree upon at the time you departed from here? You have not sent me [word] about all other things either. In case you have forgotten it, we have discussed quite a few things. And now, if nothing else, send me news about the well-being and acclimatization of your wife. Send me also news whether Monsieur Lagarde had a friendly audience with his Majesty? However, it would have been fine if you could send me [information] about all the things we had discussed.[440]

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 15th day of Maggābit [= 23 March "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen H.

182. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 29 March "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I greet you in the name of the Saviour of the World. How have you indeed been, my lord? Are you not well?[441] I, thank God, am well.

Your adorable letter has reached me. May God praise you [for it]. I hear your news daily from His Majesty. Monsieur Lagarde is in very good accord with His Majesty, and he will be starting out from here for Ḥarargē on the 24th day of Maggābit [= 1 April]. By the grace of your guardian angel, everything has been accomplished well. Furthermore, His Majesty honoured Monsieur Lagarde yesterday by creating him Duke of Enṭoṭṭo. I, too, rejoice, my lord. He has appointed me State Councillor with the rank of Excellency. Rejoice, my lord, as I am exceedingly delighted. As to the wire[442] work, I rely[443] on you, my lord. I have sent [an order] to Monsieur Karatan [?] in Ērar to send wire materials to Hirnā. I beg you to help him by providing workers so that he may send much on my behalf. Also, the gold-mining machine has not reached me. Please have it searched for whether it is in

440 At the top of the original is a note which reads: "Read and tear it off." The matters alluded to in the letter must have been top secret.

441 The exact significance of this question in the late nineteenth century is unknown, but it certainly had a negative connotation later on.

442 Whether this refers to a telegraph or telephone line is unclear.

443 Lit. "please, my lord".

Gildēssā or elsewhere and send it to me. Monsieur Comboul[444] has gone to Wallaggā; but what is he going to do without equipment? Please, my lord, do not let it tarry. I am working hard here. Daǧǧāzmāč Berru may relate [all] to you when he comes [to you]. My lord, help me.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 21st day of Maggābit [= 29 March "1897"].
[Signature] Alfred Ilg.

183. Yaši Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 3 April "1897"

May it reach the respected lord, Monsieur Ilg.[445] I bow [before you] wishing that He give you health.

Sir,

Listen. At the time you started out from Ḥarar for Šawā, I gave two Gra[446] rifles to Yefru. Now, when I wrote to Ato Tagan to take charge of them, he turned him away saying that they had been lost. My rifles bear a mark. In whose reign over a country in which you live would it be possible to commit such a thing! And now, clarify it on my behalf as a judge with Yefru. My rifles cannot serve as substitutes for lost things. I sent them trusting you; how can they be declared lost?

[Seal]: Ya
[Signature]: Yaši Mikāᶜēl.
26th day of Maggābit [= 3 April "1897"], Ḥarar, Telegraph [station].

184. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 4 April "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World grant you health.

My lord!

Your letter written on 15 Maggābit [= 22 March] has reached me. May God praise you. By

444 = Edouard Comboul, a French engineer and mineralogist in Menilek's service ca. 1897-1902. Cf: Mén pp. 175 and 485; Jean Duchesne-Fournet, Mission en Éthiopie (1901-1903). Tome I. (Paris 1909) pp. 189 f., 202; Hugues Le Roux, Ménélik et nous (Paris 1902) pp. 242 ff.

445 This sentence is preceded in the original by a sign which looks like a cross, but its significance is unknown.

446 Probably "Weǧegra" = "Winchester".

your guardian angel, my wife is well and she sends her manifold greetings. My lord, this year I have not succeeded in getting many letters through; I do not know whether it is because of the intense rainy season that many letters got lost or were destroyed and never reached [their destination].

All the work of your friend has now been accomplished thoroughly. We have completed it from end to end in accordance with what you had begun. Furthermore, we thought it might be advantageous to befriend a *Širbā* and, hence, we placed the whitened father among us.[447] The matter is, however, top secret. The coming horsemen of St. George [!] should not hear about it. Trusting in St. George, Ethiopia fears none. ...[illegible] we thought the horsemen are unnecessary. As even the ants gather grain and other provisions for the evil days, so we have councilled that it is better for us to raise plenty of partridges[448]. Furthermore, as the seedling in its early stage can be distinguished [only] in course of time whether it is grass or grain, so we let the travellers proceed slowly lest they be hit by a stumbling block. There also came news from Dağğāzmāč Ǧotē that some white beasts had been found and that in an attempt to capture them the bull was killed and the remaining two were taken captive.[449] Come slowly so that none will be shocked (or, One strikes subtly so as not to arouse excitement). Furthermore, we are going to send (write) to Ita[sic]. My lord, we will accomplish all along with (through the aid of) His Majesty's guardian angel. His Majesty admires your letters. I hope you will also send me [some]. May God preserve you.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 27th day of Maggābit (= 4 April "1897").

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg Ing.

185. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 9 April "1897"

447 This is a very cryptic sentence and it is very difficult to make sense out of it. Some of the words can be read with slight variations (e.g. wada/waddo), each time changing the sense. The term 'sirba' or 'serba' is used in Tegreñña and Gondar Amharic to denote a very hot type of pepper, but it is difficult to know what it represents in this encoded message.

448 The Amharic equivalent 'gegra' or 'zegra' is similar in sound to 'wegegra' or 'wezegra', a type of rifle, particularly the Vetterli-Gras, which was widely in use in Ethiopia during this period. Hence, the writer is probably imparting the message that the government decided to obtain more weapons in view of the prevailing international political developments in the region.

449 Obviously, this is a reference to the incident of Bottego. Captain Vittorio Bottego (1860-97] was an Italian officer assigned to Eritrea in 1887-91. In the 1890s, he explored the area around Asab, Somalia and parts of western Ethiopia and collected geographical and zoological specimens for scientific organizations in Italy. He was killed on 16 March 1897 at Gidāmi in western Wallaggā where he ran into conflict with some local officials. Cf. PuDiz p. 56; Enrico Cerulli, Folk-Literature of the Galla of Southern Abyssinia = Harvard African Studies III (Cambridge, Mass., 1922) pp. 165-67.

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well. My wife also enquires very much after your wellbeing. She says, "I, by the grace of your guardian angel, am well and am acclimatized".

My lord, on their way back from the coast about three years ago, my servants were robbed at Mordale. Now as Monsieur Lagarde said that he would discuss it with Rās Makwannen, I have sent my servant by the name of Robā so that he may collect the Thalers if found. The amount lost was 90 Thalers. Furthermore, a servant of mine named Walda Ṣādeq lost 664 Thalers. The total is 754 Thalers. I entreat with you, my lord, to see to it that the money of those young men does not remain lost just like that. I sent you a letter. Read it very conscientiously.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 2nd day of Miyāzyā [= 9 April "1897"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

186. Alfred Ilg to Ṗāwlos
Addis Ababā 10 April "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Ṗāwlos. How have you indeed been? My friend, I, thank God, am well.

Behold, Ato Balatē is coming with 432 Thalers of His Majesty for the rent of the camels which transported the telephone materials. Monsieur Carrette[450] sent me [word] that he has paid the rent of the eighteen camels which travelled to Deldey.[451] Balatē told me that they were 54 camels. If 18 is subtracted, there remains 36. You[pl.] should make sure of this. If this is correct, let him give you 288 Thalers, i.e. the rent of the 36 camels, and the rest of the Thalers should be returned. Furthermore, I informed His Majesty that there were three packages of rifles. He replied: "Have them brought here and We shall look at them". I entreat with you, my lord, to take care of everything. I have sent a horse, for which I begged, for the caravaneer.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 3rd day of Miyāzyā [= 10 April "1897"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

450 = Pierre Carrette, a French businessman who lived first in Djibouti, and then in Dowālē and Derrēdāwā respectively. As a young man, he arrived in the region around 1892 and allegedly spoke Arabic, Somali and Amharic. He was said to have fostered good relations with the Isā, Danakil and the Gurgurā, though he apparently had poor relations with one of the leading Muslim agents of the Emperor, as can be gathered from doc. 236 below. Cf. Hugues Le Roux, Ménélik et nous (Paris 1902) pp. 93 f.; Robert Peet Skinner, Abyssinia of to-day. An account of the first mission sent by the American government to the court of the King of Kings (1903-1904) (London - New York 1906) pp. 133 f.

451 The significance of the last phrase is not clear. It is not clear whether "sela mahedaccaw" refers to Carrette in the respect form or the camels in the plural form.

187. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 10 April "1897"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you been indeed?

Congratulations on your success, my lord. Cheers on your joy![452] Under [the protection of] your guardian angel and by the grace of God, my wife and I are well.

Your letter written on the 21st of Yakkātit [= 28 February] has reached me. May God reward you plentifully on my behalf. It will be advantageous if Monsieur Comboul comes to Addis Ababā for consultations on all matters and, hence, I beg you, my lord, to grant him permission to come with you. In case he is in need, please give him 300 Thalers; I will reimburse [you] here. I entreat with you, my lord, that he will not suffer on the journey. May God enable us to meet again in safety.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 3rd day of Miyāzyā [= 10 April "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

188. Ṗāwlos to Alfred Ilg
Čabbā 10 April 1897

May it reach the respected, the eminent, my father, my lord, my friend, Bitwaddad Monsieur Ilg. I pay my obeisance ten times wishing that Christ, the Saviour of the World, give you health. I, by the grace of God, am well.

My lord, I am sending you herewith a letter which I received from a European. It is said that the goods of the Russians and the goods of the French have arrived in Bilan. We do not know whether or not your things are there. I was told that the camp was huge. To be certain about the camp, I went down to Awārā Malkā and sent a horseman down from there. You will find everything in your letter. I beg you to give my compliments to my lady.

Says Ṗāwlos, your son.

Written at Čabbā on the 4th day of Miyāzyā 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 11 April 1897].

[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Ato Ṗāwlos.

452 Lit. "Congratulations that you became happy". But the Amharic sentence does not imply that he was unhappy earlier.

189. Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 11 April "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

Your things have arrived. Those which have not yet come are around 14 boxes. Those, too, may probably come soon. When all have arrived here, I will have them transported. I have already sent the things which arrived earlier, and they must be in Bālḍi now. I heard of your appointment to office. May God make it real. It is delightful when a person works hard and is thus rewarded. The telephone-line has passed Qunni. It is only the poles that have been erected; the wire has been laid only as far as Burqā as a result of the delay in delivery of the insulators. Whatever is lacking is from your[pl.] side; nothing lacks on my side. Convey to your wife that I inquired after her health. May God enable us to meet again in life.

Written in Ḥarar on the 5th day of Miyāzyā [= 11 April "1897"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

190. Mozzetti D'Elesio to Menilek II
Ḥarargē 11 April 1897

May it reach the Lion of Judah hath Prevailed,[453] Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. Peace be to you.

I heard news that besides General Albertoni[454] and other officials and officers who have come, there are some known by name who remained in the country:

1. Pascoasi Dominico who was with[455] Azzāž Zāmānuʿēl;
2. Jancketti Amedeo who was with Liqa Makwās Abāta.

There are others who received their clothes in Ankobar and remained behind:

1. Teckella Marco;
2. Cicca Giuseppe;

453 This clause, which should actually read - "The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath Prevailed", was not a title, but rather a motto of the Ethiopian Imperial rulers. Cf Sven Rubenson, The Lion of the Tribe of Judah: Christian Symbol and/or Imperial Title = JES 3.2 (1965) pp. 75-85. The letter which was apparently a translation of the Italian original has generally been rendered in bad Amharic.

454 General Matteo Francesco Albertoni (1840-1919). He arrived in northeast Africa in 1885 with the rank of colonel and was assigned as commander of a contingent to Ḥergigo, Massawa, Asmarā and elsewhere respectively. He was one of the leading officers who commanded the Italian colonial army which temporarily invaded Tegrāy in 1890. He was promoted to general in February 1896 and was taken captive at the Battle of ʾAdwā a few weeks later. PuDiz p. 10.

455 It is not clear whether this soldier and the one mentioned below were taken captive by, or were entrusted by the Emperor to, or had worked with the Ethiopian officials mentioned by name.

3. Sicci Luigi.

It is known that they are still in Ankobar or its vicinities. I suppose some of the mentioned men may not wish to return to Italy. Unless Your Majesty forces them to return, however, their families may complain to the Italian government, for they know that they are still alive, and they wish that they return [home]. I beg Your Majesty to order an intensive search for them and send them here, as well as others if there are any whose names I do not know. If they need mules or any other things, let them be given them on my behalf. I will pay the expenses here. I am waiting for a written reply of Your Majesty whether or not individual soldiers have been found in various places, as well as about those looked for and found in Addis Ababā and Ankobar. May God preserve you.

Captain Dr. Cavaliere Elesio Mozzetti[456], Proxy of the Italian government and sponsor of the captives in Ḥarargē.

Written in Ḥarargē on 4 Miyāzyā 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 11 April 1897].

[Signature]: Mozzetti D'Elesio.

191. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 22 April "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent has reached me. I sent along with Minister Lagarde your servant, Roma[457] who had lost things at Mordāli, so that he [Lagarde] would cause a search on his behalf. Give my compliments to your wife.

Written in Ḥarar on the 15th day of Miyāzyā [= 22 April "1897"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen

192. Diplôme du Prince Bismarck
Addis Ababā 5 June 1897

The Lion ... hath prevailed. ...

I give my greetings to all those people who see this letter. Just as the sovereigns who - through their intellect and knowledge and through their power and sagacity - have become

456 An Italian medical officer (b. 1860) who served in the military in Eritrea in the years 1887-97. He participated in the Italian military expedition of 1895-96 and subsequently acted as an Italian envoy in the negotiation to get the captives released. PuDiz p. 214.

457 = Robā.

glorious, exalt their heroes and friends as well as their servants, so do we award the venerated and highest order of Our Empire, the Star of Ethiopia, to Our friend Prince Bismarck[458] who has illumined the whole world with his outstanding and praiseworthy achievements, the loyal councillor of three[459] great sovereigns, and whose sympathy toward the human beings on the African continent and benevolent acts are recognized[460]. We beg you to wear this decoration on the hip.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 29th[461] day of Genbot 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 5 June 1897].

193. Menilek II to Count Leontiev
Addis Ababā 9 June 1897

Copie de l'original de la lettre de l'Empereur

The Lion ... hath prevailed. ...

May it reach Count Leontiev. Peace be to you. Having realized that you have until this day been serving my government dutifully, I hereby notify you that, when you have accomplished what we have just discussed and come back, it is my will that you be taken into my service and appointed head over the country at the periphery which you will pacify in accordance[462] with the traditions of my country, Ethiopia. And We shall grant you liberty to pay off within five years the expenses you incur. Thereafter, however, you shall pay tribute - if gold, silver, ivory [or] coffee is found in the country you pacify - just like the notables of my country. The peripheral region I will be giving you will be to the south of Ethiopia.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 3rd day of Sanē 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 9[463] June 1897].

458 = Otto Fürst von Bismarck-Schönhausen, Herzog von Lauenburg, 1815-1898. Prussian politician and statesman 1851-70; German Reichskanzler 1871-90. He was an ally of Italy, though he scarcely had the intention to help Italy in her colonial ventures.

459 Kaiser Wilhelm I (1871-88), Kaiser Friedrich (1888) and Kaiser Wilhelm II (1888-1918).

460 Lit. "As she has recognized his benevolent acts". It cannot, however, be established beyond doubt if "she" refers to "continent".

461 There is a copy of this text dated 24th day of Genbot 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 31 May 1897] which was presumably a draft presented to the Emperor by Ilg or someone else for approval.

462 The clause, "in accordance with the traditions of my country, Ethiopia," can as well be placed close to "be ... appointed," as it is unclear from the original whether the manner of raising a foreigner to a high office or the method of the conquest should conform to tradition.

463 Why Ilg noted 17th of June on his copy is obscure.

194. Menilek II's Decree of Appointment
Addis Ababā 9 June 1897

The Lion ... hath prevailed. ...

Peace be to you[pl.]. We have issued the following proclamation:

On account of his dedicated service to Our government, We have appointed Count Leontiev governor-general over the whole country in southern[464] Ethiopia. We have granted permission to those helpers required by Count Leontiev to develop the country, to come up with everything [including] possessions and money. We have granted him permission to own the country for five years so that he may be able to cover his expenses. Thereafter, he will have to pay us tribute like any other Dağğāzmāč in gold, ivory and coffee.

Given in Addis Ababā on the 3rd day[465] of Sanē 1889 of the Year of Grace [= 9 June 1897].

195. James Rennell Rodd to Menilek II
Zeila 14 June 1897

May it reach Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. Peace be to you. Thank God, we have had a smooth journey and have arrived safely at Zeila. We stayed in Ḥarargē for five days. I have had a great deal of business to attend to with Rās Makwannen. The Rās demanded some more things than I had intended to concede. However, I intend to convince my home government of England to accept the treaty we have concluded [so that] peace and security may prevail over our countries. I have no doubt that I shall succeed in this. I also hope that my visit to Your Majesty will benefit both our governments. I should also like to thank Your Majesty for the generous hospitality extended to us in Addis Ababā. May God bestow longevity upon Your Majesty and provide your country with peace and plenty.

[Signature]: James Rennell Rodd[466]

Sent by James Rennell Rodd, envoy of the English Government.

Written in the town of Zeila on 8 Sanē 1889 [= 14 June 1897].

464 The phrase may also be translated as, "the whole country to the south of Ethiopia".

465 It is doubtful whether the proclamation was made public on this particular day. A letter addressed to the nominee on the same day (cf. doc. 193) made his appointment conditional on his successful execution of an unnamed Imperial assignment.

466 1858-1941; born in London; educated at Oxford; entered diplomatic service in 1884 and served in Germany, France, Italy, Zanzibar and Egypt before he led a delegation to Ethiopia in 1897. He was knighted in 1899. Cf. Ency.Brit. 1961 vol. 19 p. 150.

196. Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr Moradā to Menilek II
Naqqamtē 22 June "1897"

Your Majesty!
I have not received a letter along with the things of Monsieur Comboul which you have sent me, that states how many they were. The implements reached me on the day of St. Michael of Sanē [= 18 June]. Those who handed me the things were Habtē and Walda Ṣādeq. What they counted and handed to me and what I counted and received were: 200 *wagal*[467]-like metal hangers, 39 scrapers, 7 scrapers fitted with wooden handles, 4 dynamite-rubble shovels, 1 *arko*,[468] 12 scoops, 10 rolls of wire, 1 *qalad*[469] of rope, 48 hoes, 3 sledgehammers, 12 hinges, 12 *Maṭraǧǧā*[470], 6 bowed iron pieces, 3 hewers, 2 axes, 1 anvil, 3 iron-balls, 6 chimneys bound with two *maloǧā* [471] and two *malo*[472], 7 pairs of tongs, 2 hollowed iron bars with two wires inside, 1 coal-scuttle, 1 scraper, 1 borer, 1 hooked iron piece, 4 crowbars, 34 *Arab* iron pieces,[473] 13 ...[474] covered with *ǧonā* [475], 149 *zābbiyā*[476], 50 *mafsašā* [477], 3 metal objects which look like cannons each with pulleys[478] on the sides, 23 boxes one of which containing a whetstone, 13 metal sieves. These I have received.

Written in the town of Naqqamtē on the 16th of Sanē [= 22 June "1897"]. I pay obeisance many many times wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Says your servant, your slave, Daǧǧāzmāč Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr.
[Seal]: Daǧǧāzmāč Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr.

467 There seems to exist no English equivalent for this term. KaneDic p. 1578 defines the term as an "iron ring which has a long, spur-like projection curved at the end and which holds the plowshare to the plowbeam".
468 This term is not entered in any of the Amharic dictionaries.
469 A traditional measurement of distance around 150 cubit long. Cf. KaneDic p. 691.
470 This term is not entered in the available Amharic dictionaries unless it is a variation or a mistake for matragya = broom.
471 This term is not entered in the Amharic dictionaries unless of course it is a regional version for "malogiya" which means a "pole for carrying a heavy object". Cf. KaneDic p. 161.
472 This term is not entered in the available Amharic dictionaries.
473 According to KaneDic p. 1149, this phrase refers to steel.
474 The name of the article is apparently missing at this point.
475 The orthography of this term is difficult to determine in the original. It is probably ǧenā or ǧinā defined in KaneDic p. 1867 as, "leather from an animal's tail used for covering a club".
476 KaneDic 1646 defines this term as, "half (of an ax), ax handle, spearshaft." KBMQ p. 1049 limits it to the wooden handle of an axe, spear or hoe.
477 "Means for melting". Cf. KaneDic 2295. In this case, it is probably a thing into or on which the melted gold or silver could be poured.
478 The term "mazawer" can signify several things including pulleys, propeller, screw, wheel and machine depending on the context. Cf. KaneDic p. 314. In so far as the present editor is unfamiliar with mining machines, the choice of "pulleys" in this context is arbitrary.

197. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
"Qullubbi" 23 June "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

A letter from Monsieur Chefneux went to Monsieur Mondon in Addis Ababā and came back to me. When I opened the envelope, there was another envelope [inside] addressed to you. I am now sending it to you. In the future, if such a letter wanders to you, open it, keep your own and send mine to me. What about you? Why, you denied me even a letter! An old friend would actually have been regarded above all. And now, convey my greetings to your wife.[479]

Written on the 17th day of Sanē [= 23 June "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

198. S. Harrington to Menilek II
Zeila 28 June 1897

This [is] Lieutenant Harrington[480], governor of Zeila.
To the Supreme Majesty, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

Your letter granting me permission has reached me, and I have been pleased with your generous consideration. Your Majesty's proxy, the eminent Monsieur Ilg, has written me that Your Majesty will allow me to hunt[481] in your Empire. I now seek Your Majesty's permission for another visit next January. May God grant Your Majesty long life and health.

[Signature]: Harrington S.
Written from Zeila on 22 Sanē 1889 (= 28 June 1897].

199. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 28 June "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How about your health? I, thank God, am well.

479 Lit. "... inquire on my behalf after the health of your wife."
480 = Major John Lane Harrington (later Sir), British envoy to Ethiopia from 1897 to 1908. Mén pp. 502 and 540.
481 Lit. "to kill". This letter was translated into the Amharic by someone who was barely acquainted with the Amharic language. It is full of orthographic and syntactical errors.

I have sent you herewith post which came for you from overseas. I keep writing to you always; you do not, however, give me any reply. Convey my compliments to your wife.

Written in the town of Qullubbi on the 22nd day of Sanē (= 28 June "1897").

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

200. Alfred Ilg to Abbā Ǧefār
Addis Ababā 1 July "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg, Councillor of State. May it reach the venerated Negus Abbā Ǧefār. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

The three *Waqēt* ivory you sent me as a present have reached me. Thank you.[482] As your servant claimed that you wished that I find you a sword, I have sent you a quality sword through his hands, and please accept it. And now, I heard that you will be going on an expedition to Kafā. May God conduct you there in safety and return you in security. In case you find a panther skin I beg you not to forget me. I, too, shall not forget you.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 25th day of Sanē [= 1 July "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

201. Alfred Ilg To Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 5 July 1897

May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. Sent by Monsieur Ilg, the State Councillor. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My wife sends her greetings.[483] Both of us are well, by the grace of your guardian angel.

The letter you wrote me on the 17th day of Sanē [= 23 June] has reached me. May God reward you indeed on my behalf. However, I am worried, as I have been unable to find out whether my letter written to you on the 27th day of Maggābit has reached you. My lord, the visitors have departed well, under the protection of your guardian angel. Only Leontiev has troubled His Majesty extremely. I have never seen such an impetuous person. I am afraid this man will cause a problem. Since His Majesty granted him permission to conquer a country in the south, he has brought about many perplexing matters. Immediately

482 Lit. "May God reward you on my behalf".

483 Lit. "My wife says, 'How have you been?'"

thereafter, he associated himself with the Prince d'Orléans[484] and they were a sort of company when they left, claiming to raise a great deal of money. I was not involved in this matter. Yosēf knows about all these things. He [Leontiev] is not aware that the affair has been disclosed to you in detail. Monsieur Nerazzini departed happily. Please see to it that he departs well. Please do not dispute with him about trivial matters. The most important matter is that of the boundary, and he said that he could settle the boundary question. Do not suspect that today any problem may rise from the side of Italy. For my part, I have worked as hard as I could, and I will yet work harder. I believe that His Majesty likes me very much. However, until this day I have not seen that he has taken notice of my hard work. I am getting poorer; only my name thrives. And I am extremely disadvantaged.[485] May God preserve your friendship on my behalf.

[Written in] Addis Ababā on the 29th of Sanē 1889 [= 5 July 1897].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

202. Dārgē Śāḥla Śellāsē to Alfred Ilg "Addis Ababā 10 July 1897"

Sent by Rās Dārgē. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you spent the day?[486]

Your protégée came and visited me here at my house; but I have not visited her now for some time, because of my illness - I become unconscious.[487] And now, I have sent a beef and two castrated he-goats for tomorrow's feast.[488] What I have sent is for her, not for you.

[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Rās Dārgē, head of the notables.

484 = Henri d'Orléans (1867-1901), a French nobleman who toured parts of Ethiopia in 1891 and between February and July 1897 probably to survey the economic possibilities. At least Leontiev tried to interest him in a joint economic venture in southern Ethiopia without consulting the government, an initiative which offended Menilek and Ilg. The Prince d'Orléans published a travel account under the title: Une Visite à l'Empereur Ménélick. Notes et Impressions de Route (Paris 1898).

485 In this sentence, as in many others, there is an unrenderable connotation that the disadvantage of the addresser is not in the interest of the addressee.

486 This is rather an unusual formulation of the traditional greeting. Either this was the usual way of the Rās addressing people or he had seen Ilg very recently.

487 Lit. "... my heart gets lost". In the Ethiopian tradition, the heart is the seat of consciousness, love, thoughts, etc.

488 Lit. "... for breaking the fast tomorrow". This alludes to the so-called Fast of the Prophets which occurs between the Ascension and 11 July and which was, and still is, observed primarily by the clergy and the old laity. Hence, the unnamed woman referred to in the letter must have been a nun or an elderly lady of high status or a foreigner - an Armenian or a Greek - associated with the Orthodox Faith.

203. Alfred Ilg to Ṗāwlos
Addis Ababā 10 July "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Ṗāwlos. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I have sent through the hands of Ato Buttā 144 Thalers of rent for the 18 camels. Please accept it. However, I am told that the eighteenth camel has not yet arrived. You should demand a guarantor that this one camel will not fail to come. Buttā has also told me that he has six loads left in Bālčḭ and, hence, give him these six loads. It is claimed over there that a horse cannot transport two boxes. Buttā says he can and, hence, please give them to him so that he may bring them for me to Addis Ababā.

Written in Addis Ababā on 4 Ḥamlē [= 10 July "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

204. Cesare Nerazzini to Menilek II
Ḥarar 12 July 1897

Governo di S.M. il Re d'Italia

To the Elect of God, Emperor Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia and the Gāllā regions. Sent by Major Nerazzini. Prostrating myself before Your Majesty in great awe, I give my greetings.

I have reached Ḥarargē safely within 12 days. I thank Your Majesty for all the help on the way, wishing that God reward you on my behalf. Ato Ṗāwlos and Grāzmāč Bāntē have done many good things for me. Rās Makwannen received me well at Qullubbi. I will start out for Zeila after tomorrow, and I will write you a letter from there. I beg [you] to impart to Her Majesty my best regards.[489] May God bestow upon you all good things.

Written in Ḥarargē on the 12th of Luglio 1897.

[Signature]: Mag. re. Nerazzini.

205.A. Ganno to Alfred Ilg
"St. Petersburg" 12 July "1897"

May it reach my lord, Monsieur Ilg, the highly venerated councillor of the King of Kings. My lord, may God bestow charm[490] upon you. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the

489 Lit. "I beg [you] to impart to Her Majesty that I shall prostrate myself before her".

490 Lit. "... the attribute of being loved by human beings".

Redeemer of the World give you health.

My lord, I bow before you thankfully. The letter you sent me reached me on the 6th day after the month of Ḥamlē began [= 12 July]. It is fine that you sent me [your] address. Since our arrival we have so far been staying in the house of General Suwedof[491]. It is the same as that of the Red Cross, and you can use it in the future when addressing [letters] to me. My lord, I shall include my picture next time. This I have written in a hurry.

Written on the 6th day after the month of Ḥamlē began (= 12 July "1897"].

205.B. Ganno and Schwedow to Alfred Ilg "St. Petersburg 12 July 1897"

May it reach Monsieur Ilg. I am writing this greeting at the order of General Schwedow. He is very disappointed. The letter you sent me came through him. We are staying with him. He says, "How have you indeed been? Is your wife used to the country? Is she doing fine? The reason why I have not written myself is because I am cross. And now, my brother, please send me news about the wellbeing of His Majesty, Her Majesty, your own and that of your wife." Once again, it is not a lie. He is also the one who sent us to school.[492] I will write to you about the rest when I am calm. My lord, I have written this at his order. Bazzābeh is in Moscow.

Says Ganno

206. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg Qullubbi 25 July "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? How are you healthwise? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent me has reached me, and I am very happy. Please write to me frequently in the future. Please convey my greetings to your wife. Minister Lagarde had sent me two small boxes requesting me to forward them to you. I have, hence, sent them with the things of His Majesty, and let it be that you receive them. May God give you health.

Written in the town of Qullubbi on the 19th day of Ḥamlē [= 25 July "1897"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

491 = Major General Nikolaus of Shvedov / Schwedow, a member of the Russian Red Cross Central Committee under whose auspices the Russian Red Cross team in Ethiopia worked.

492 The last phrase may also be translated as, "... to a training institution". It is not clear whether the young men were sent to a school or a training centre of some sort.

207. Cesare Nerazzini to Menilek II
Aden 26 July 1897

Governo di S.M. il Re d'Italia

To the Elect of God, Emperor Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia and the Gāllā regions. Sent by Major Nerazzini. I prostrate myself before Your Majesty with great reverence. I also give my greetings of friendship.[493]

I should like to bring to your attention that I have arrived in Aden safely and that I will start out for Italy in two days' time. Thank God, I have accomplished[494] my journey quickly. But we suffered from heat on the way. My government has fulfilled all the matters Her Majesty had desired in connection with her house in Jerusalem, and I beg you to let her know [about it].[495] All in Italy expect that the things of Bottego - which may be useful for geographical knowledge - will be found in accordance with the promise of Your Majesty. I suggest that you notify by wire either my government or myself, your very friend, as soon as the articles come into your hands in Addis Ababā. It would also be a good thing if you could make it possible that the things of Hakim [physician] Sacchi[?] be found. A telegram from Your Majesty may arouse great joy. I do expect it. I will send you a wire when I arrive in Italy. May God keep us forever in friendship as it is today. May He bestow upon you all good things.

Written in Aden on 26 Luglio 1897.

[Signature]: Mag.re. Nerazzini.

208. A Telephone Message to Menilek II
Addis Ababā ... "July 1897"

Telephone message

Your Majesty!

I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Ato Ṗāwlos told me by telephone from Ċobbā what follows:

The church at Bālčǐ has been struck by lightning. We put the fire out quickly. Persons

493 This sentence is strange in its construction and, hence, its significance can only be guessed.

494 "Asallaṭehu" is a Tegreññā term with Amharic vocalization and suffix. The interpreter of the Italian diplomat may have been a Tegreññā-speaker.

495 What exactly the Italian government did to solve the problem of the Empress' property in Jerusalem could not be established in the course of the research. The problem was probably related to the dispute between the Ethiopian monks in Jerusalem and their prior, Abbā Walda Śellāsē, in the late 1880s and 90s with regard to the administration of a house which the Empress had purchased for the benefit of the monastery. Cf. Kirsten Pedersen, The History of the Ethiopian Community in the Holy Land from the Time of Emperor Tewodros II till 1974 (Jerusalem 1983) pp. 49-54.

and things have been spared. Only a few things have been damaged. Furthermore, people have been caught at Č̣obbā and put under arrest, as they were found transporting six slaves. When asked whom they belong to, they say they belong to Rās Makwannen. However, I do not think it is true. Should they be sent to Addis Ababā? "We pay our obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health," say Monsieur Drouin and Ato P̣āwlos. The servant of His Majesty.
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

209. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 4 August "1897"

May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. Sent by Monsieur Ilg, the State Councillor. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? My wife and I are well, under the protection of your guardian angel and by the grace of God.

All of us, including His Majesty, are worried, as news from you has been wanting. We are wondering if you have been ill.[496] His Majesty and Her Majesty are deeply mourning the death of Wayzaro Šawāraggā. You, too, are a near relation, and may God console you. His Majesty enquires about silver[497] every day. Furthermore, he grieves very much, as the goods remain lying in Ērar and elsewhere on the way. He has now sent [word] to Monsieur Lagarde that Europeans should not come up through Ērar, but that they should come up through Ḥarargē. Monsieur Lagarde has sent us [word] that he will arrive in Djibouti in September. His house is far from finished. Hence, we are worried. Furthermore, Monsieur Chefneux sent [word] saying that he would be coming. But I think he will sojourn in Djibouti. Your house has turned out to be beautiful. We are hoping that you will be coming after the rainy season.[498] I suppose the telephone[499] [installation] will be completed in fifteen days. I beg you, my lord, to help them[500] as much as you can so that our money may not be wasted. It is said that the English are going to come up along the Juba river. We

496 Lit. "We say, 'is he perhaps ill?'"
497 It may equally be a reference to Thalers or other silver coins.
498 Lit. "... for the Holy Cross." Masqal, the holiday of the Holy Cross, marks the end of the rainy season in Ethiopian tradition and in this context, as in many others, the implication is after the rains, and not necessarily on the actual day of the celebration as such.
499 It may also mean 'telegraph', which was also referred to as 'selk'
500 Perhaps a reference to the telephone-line contractors. The same phrase can, however, be translated with 'him' if it is understood as a respect form for the third person, singular, masculine and, hence, a reference to the sovereign. It is not clear what kind of help was expected from the addressee, but a list containing 1204 poles of various sizes and signed by Ilg has been preserved together with this letter. Ilg had possibly tried to get Makwannen to deliver them for his telephone project in the Emperor's name. It should, however, be noted that the list bears the date 21 September, i.e. about six weeks after the letter.

have informed His Majesty about it, and he has sent a letter to Fitāwrāri Habta Giyorgis[501]. It would be good if you could send [word] to Dağğāzmāč Walda Gabre^{c}ēl[502] so that he may not be hostile to them. His Majesty said that he would send [a message] to Dağğāč Asfāw.[503] I hope you will send me news of your wellbeing. May God guard you.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 28th day of Ḥamlē [= 4 August "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg

210. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā^{c}ēl
Addis Ababā 13 August "1897"

May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your letter written on the 19th day of Ḥamlē [= 25 July] and two small boxes have reached me. May God reward you bountifully on my behalf. My lord, the matter of the telephone [installation] has become a serious problem for me. The telephone material which has arrived so far is not sufficient. When I enquire in Djibouti, they tell me that it has been cleared out. They told me that what is left is not much. I am in trouble, as I cannot locate where the material is stored. I have now sent Monsieur Drouin to Ērar to look for it. From your side, please enquire seriously if it lies in Gildēssā; if it is found, send for Monsieur Drouin so that he may come and have it transported. Our money is being wasted for nothing. I entreat with you [to help], my lord. My wife sends her cordial greetings.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 8th day of Naḥasē [= 13 August "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

501 = Fitāwrāri Habta Giyorgis Dinagdē (ca. 1856-1926), an Oromo of Šawā who began his career as a palace servant. He demonstrated his talent as a good fighter at the campaign of ʾAdwā after which he was promoted to commander-in-chief of the army with the title of Fitāwrāri which was ranked with Rās in 1910. In 1898 he led a series of military expeditions to the south to conquer and pacify Boranā. In 1910-26, he played an active role in national politics. Cf. Mén pp. 429, 461-464, 483 and passim; Bairu Tafla, "Two Ethiopian Biographies: Wähni Azzaž Wäldä Ṣadeq Abbā Mänzer 1838-1909, and Fitawrari Habtä Giyorgis Abbā Mäčal, 1853-1926" in: JES 6/1 (1968) pp. 123-30.

502 = Dağğāzmāč Walda Gabre^{c}ēl Abbā Sayṭān, one of the oldest court officials who helped Menilek II escape from the prison of Maqdalā and establish himself in Šawā. He governed throughout his life Barakat and Wasil on the southeastern escarpment which he expanded eastwards to Čarčar. Cf. A. Donaldson Smith, Through Unknown African Countries. The First Expedition from Somaliland to Lake Lamu (London - New York 1897) pp. 74-77; Mén pp. 238-241, 289 f.

503 = Asfāw Dārgē, son of Rās Dārgē Šāḥla Šellāsē. He was said to be a good military commander, but rather a turbulent character who frequently ran into conflict with his father, the Emperor and others. In the 1880s, he was a commander within the army of his father. In the 1890s, he was assigned to conquer and pacify Bālē which he did as far as Lug on the Somali and Kenya border. After the death of his father, he was given half of Salālē, but he was soon suspected of conspiracy and was committed to prison where he died in 1906. Cf. Mén p. 492, 575; HWSBiog p. 49; MSEthCul p. 248.

211. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 17 August "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you been? How have you been healthwise? I, thank God, am well.

The letter you sent me has reached me. As for me, I have never stopped sending letters; they may not have reached you. I have been sending [letters] always. Minister Lagarde has sent me [word] , too, that he will be reaching Djibouti on the 5th day of Maskaram[504] [= 14 September]. As to Monsieur Chefneux, he did not send me [word] that he was coming. Apart from your message, I have not had heard about it. As to the money which should come from him, a trunk of five hundred thousand [Thalers] has reached me. Another one hundred thousand is, however, in Djibouti. The things of Minister Lagarde have begun to be transported here, though we are short of camels. Give my best regards to your wife.

Written in the town of Qullubbi on the 12th day of Naḥasē [= 17 August "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

212. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Qullubbi 19 August "1897"

Sent by Rās Makwannen. May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you been indeed? How have you been healthwise? I, thank God, am well.

Behold, the arrival of Monsieur Lagarde is at hand. As the construction of his house will not be finished by then, I shall not mind if he resides in my court. I will camp near him there on the side of Bağerond Bālčā's house. If this is convenient, it would be appropriate to inform His Majesty about it.

Written in Qullubbi on the 14th day of Naḥasē (= 19 August "1897"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

213. Menilek II to Antonio di Rudini
Addis Ababā "4"[?] September 1897

[Telegram]:
Minister Rudini, Roma.

504 This date may possibly be Gregorian, as usually the Ethiopians translated the months 1 to 1 and kept the date as it was. I have in any case given the possible alternative in brackets.

The wire of the 3rd day of Maskaram[505] [September] has reached me. The ratification of the Treaty of Commerce and your acceptance of our agreement on the boundary [question] has satisfied me. I hope the friendly correspondence between Ethiopia and Italy will continue to be strengthened. We shall be pleased if Ciccodicola[506] comes. Peace be to you.

Menilek

214. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 13 September "1897"

May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been, my lord? I and my wife are well by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

Rās[507] had sent me [word] that Monsieur Lagarde could lodge in your house.[508] When I told this to His Majesty, he said: "In the house of Rās Makwannen, the owner himself should first move in; if someone else moves in [before him], it may, to my disadvantage, be spoiled." His Majesty is now considering seriously to hasten the construction of the house of Monsieur Lagarde. Now, I should also like to entreat you for something. I sent to Harargē a telephone technician to look for the telephone material. Please give on my behalf 300 Thalers to Monsieur Drouin so that he may not face any difficulty. I will reimburse you here. I entreat with you [to do so], my lord. Furthermore, in case the telephone material arrives from Djibouti, please pay on my behalf the camel rent. I will repay you all here. If the telephone material comes, please send it here immediately. Our money is being wasted for nothing, for salaries cannot be discontinued. I beg you, my lord; if you do not help me, is it not going to fail? My wife sends her cordial greetings.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 4th day of Maskaram [= 13 September "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

505 Regarding the date, see note 27 supra.

506 Federico Ciccodicola (1860-1924), an Italian officer and diplomat who lived and worked in Northeast Africa the greater part of his life. He arrived in Massawa in 1885 and led a military contingent to occupy Asmarā in 1889. He also fought against the Mahdists and Rās Mangašā in 1894-95. He participated in the campaign of ʾAdwā. He was appointed head of the Italian mission in Ethiopia on 28 February 1898 which office he held until 1908. The treaties of 1900 and 1902 regulating the boundary between the Italian colony of Eritrea and Ethiopia were negotiated and signed under his term of office. Cf. PuDiz p. 83.

507 This unusual address was probably intended to express extreme courtesy. Ilg was by this time the Ritwaddad, but he apparently dropped all claims of right and rank to effect what he regarded as more important.

508 Cf. Docs. No. 209 and 212 supra.

215. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 20 September "1897"

May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My wife and I enquire after your health.[509] We are well, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

Yesterday arrived a wire message[510] which surprised me. Monsieur Bulatovich[511] sent [word] to His Majesty claiming that he had been sent by his government and that he was coming immediately. We do not know at all what he is coming for. I think it is connected with the affair of Monsieur Leontiev. I beg you, my lord, to come to us quickly, for Monsieur Bulatovich is a vigorous marcher. The Russian matter is developing into something serious, and please, my lord, come quickly for my sake so that everything will be all right. I am not at all involved in the affair of Monsieur Leontiev. I am not pleased with the whole matter. I am afraid a complication will eventually crop up. I also beg you not to leave behind the newspapers in Ḥarargē. Please give them a strict order, my lord. I also entreat with you about the telephone matter.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 11th day of Maskaram [= 20 September "1897"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg

216. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 September 1897

May it reach Monsieur Ilg, Conseiller d'Etat.

Excellency!

Monsieur de BonChamps[512], who was going down to the country[513] of Daǧǧāč Tasammā,

509 Lit. "I and my wife say, 'how have you been?'"

510 The phrase 'yaselk Qal' may refer to a telegram as well as to a telephone message written down at the receiving end.

511 = Aleksandr Ksaverevich Bulatovich (1870-1919), a Russian military officer who visited Ethiopia a few times accompanying first the Russian Red Cross mission led by Major-General N.K. Shvedov in 1896-97 and then the Russian diplomatic mission led by P.M. Vlassov in 1897 and 1899, and finally by himself in 1910. He explored Kafā, Lēqā and western Wallaggā and published his findings in three booklets. Cf. BulMen pp. 3-31. In 1971, the Soviet Academy of Sciences published a compilation of his works under the editorship of I. S. Katsnelson of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the same Academy. An English translation has also been done in recent years by Richard Seltzer with a copyright in 1993.

512 = Marquis de Bonchamps, a French officer who led an expedition from March 1897 to July 1898 to join the expedition of Marchand. Cf Mén pp. 455, 472. KelIlg p. 167. Bonchamps published an essay on this journey entitled "Une mission vers le Nil Blanc" in: Bull. de la Soc. de Géographie, 4me trim 1898 (Paris 1898) 29 pages and a map.

513 = Illubābor, southwestern Ethiopia.

seems to have given up his intention to go there and turned in this direction. The men of Daǧǧāč Tasammā have sent a letter to Daǧǧāč Tasammā.[514] The contents of the letter purport that he came here. His Majesty has ordered me to send you the letter that came and here I am enclosing it; look at it.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 15th day of Maskaram 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 24 September 1897].

[Seal]: Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē who is secretary of the [royal] orders.

217. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 1 October "1897"

May it reach Monsieur Ilg, Conseiller d'Etat.

Excellency!

May He give you health. He [the Emperor] has ordered me to issue the instructions for hospitality for Monsieur Lagarde in the different localities. However, if I send letters to the officials of Menǧār and Šankorā, they may not arrive in time. Hence, I request you to instruct them by telephone saying that I have said that they should offer him the same hospitality as before. I have obtained the permission of His Majesty for this instruction.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 22nd day of Maskaram [= 1 October "1897"].

[Seal]: Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē who is secretary of the [royal] orders.

218. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 2 October "1897"

May it reach Monsieur Ilg, Conseiller d'Etat.

Excellency!

May He give you health. I hereby request you to come to my house together with your wife tomorrow morning at 11 o'clock so that we may dine together as a token of friendship.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on 23rd day of Maskaram 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 2 October 1897].

[Seal]: Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē who is secretary of the [royal] orders.

514 Apparently, the official was staying in Addis Ababā at this time and his officials in the south wanted to make it clear that the expected visitor had not arrived.

219. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā
Addis Ababā 11 October "1897"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Ato Dabalā. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

There are five trunks in the care of Monsieur Duffot. One trunk belongs to Monsieur Savouré. Four trunks are mine. From among these four trunks, bring the one which should contain a piano. Bring me also the trunk which has come from our country and which is said to have come from Monsieur Garrigue. Bring no other things. Do not wait until another caravan starts out. Please make a forced march and come. Madame sends her greetings.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 2nd day of Ṭeqqemt [= 11 October "1897"]. [Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

220. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 14 October 1897

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter which you sent upon your [pl.] safe arrival in Fālli has reached me. However, there is no new development since your departure. If anything new crops up, I will let you know. With regard to the cows, let it be that they remain assigned to various peasants, as we have discussed it, and that the butter be collected and brought to us. I have also sent a letter to Ato Waldayyas. As to your request that we should allow you the milk of two cows, no problem: I have granted you the milk of three or four cows, let alone of two; let it also be that you choose and bring with you when you come back two milk cows for your family. Five lion cubs have been captured; there are now seven together with those captured earlier. Hence, it would be good if the animal tamer could come now. Give my regards to your wife posing the query whether she has become acclimatized.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 5th day of Ṭeqqemt 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 14 October 1897].

221. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 October 1897

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Monsieur Lagarde has brought the machine-gun portable by one soldier, about the invention of which we had heard, and gave it to me after you had left. We could not operate it, as we are not familiar with its mechanism, and, hence, we have put it aside. Rās Makwannen will come to Addis Ababā on Tuesday. What about you? When are you coming? Would you possibly come on Wednesday? If you have something else to do, however, never mind; I do not want to trouble you.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 8th day of Ṭeqqemt 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 17 October 1897].

222. Alfred Ilg to Sebḥāt Aragāwi
Addis Ababā 27 November "1897"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach the venerated Rās Sebḥāt. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, by the grace of God, am well.

I am pleased that you sent me [news of] your health. May God praise you. And now, we all hope that no dispute will arise on your [pl.] side and that you [pl.] will live well in harmony with the Italians. Work hard toward achieving peace for the country, for the reputation of a person will be enhanced when the country enjoys peace and the inhabitants live well. Please watch out that no dispute breaks out again. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Ḥedār [= 27 November "1897"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

223. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 28 November 1897

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Smallpox has broken out in the court of Afa negus Nasibu. My friend, vaccinate my children, for you have a good hand for it.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 20th day of Ḥedār 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 28 November 1897].
[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

224. Alfred Ilg to Wandemhun
Addis Ababā 30 November "1897"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach Ato Wandemhun. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Behold, I have sent through the hands of Monsieur Stévenin[515] 176 Thalers of rent for the 22 çamels which brought the telephone materials as well as two *Kuta*[516] which His Majesty gave me for the Adāl chiefs. Receive and divide them among the Adāl. Furthermore, Monsieur Biffet,[517] Monsieur Stévenin with his wife, Monsieur Dargon and Monsieur Goguillot have taken leave of his Majesty in a friendly manner and, hence, please let them pass without difficulty. I entreat with you that no one should intrude upon them.

[Written in] Addis Ababā on the 22nd day of Ḥedār [= 30 November "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

225. Ercole Pozzi to Menilek II
Massawa 2 December 1897

Ercole Pozzi

Massaua

May [this] epistle reach the venerated and sublime Menilek II of the Tribe of Judah, Elect of God, King of Zion, King of Kings of Ethiopia.[518] I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. I am well, thank God.

I beg Your gracious Majesty [to accept] a box of various drinks, which the honourable Captain Ciccodicola brings you on my behalf at my request. Your Majesty can order[519] any [drink] you wish. The drinks [liquors] are produced at the house [factory] of the Brancha brothers in Milan. I am their agent for Eritrea, the Italian colony. The best drink of that house is Fernèt Brancha which is famous all over the world and is the choicest. It is

515 A French technician and businessman who worked in Šawā in the 1890s. Together with another compatriot by the name of Trouillet, he replaced the old bridge on the Awāš with a metal one in 1894. Cf G. Angoulvant and Sylvain Vignéras, Djibouti, Mer Rouge, Abyssinie (Paris 1902) p. 379 note 1; Count Gleichen, With the Mission to Menelik (London 1898) pp. 274 f.; Jean Duchesne-Fournet, Mission en Éthiopie (1901-1903). Tome I. (Paris 1909) p. 44.

516 "A large, rectangular šämma-garment which has a stripe of embroidered material parallelling the hem on each end, made of two widths of cloth." Cf. KaneDic 1425.

517 No information could be found about this person as well as about Dargon and Goguillot in the course of the research. The spelling of their names is also uncertain.

518 This sentence is in Geᶜez, and the writer has obviously confused the titular address of Menilek II with that of Yoḥannes IV. The rest of the text is in poor Amharic.

519 The phrase "liyaswasedu" = "... can have it fetched" may if intentional imply that the businessman did not intend to deliver the drinks himself.

available in my shop in Massawa. There are also many types other than those I have sent. I hope you will be aware of them to my advantage.

Written in Massawa on 2 Tāḥśāś 1897.[520]

Kāvālyor[521] Ercole Pozzi

[Signature]: Pozzi Ercole

226. Alfred Ilg to Waldē Aššāgrē
Addis Ababā 14 December "1897"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Waldē. My venerated lord, I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

My lord,

To show my goodwill, I am sending you a rifle known as Martini, which has been my personal weapon, together with 100 cartridges and 20 Winchester cartridges which I have had at home. Please accept them. May God let you reach [your destination].[522]

Written in Addis Ababā on the 6th day of Tāḥśāś [= 14 December "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

227. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl
Addis Ababā 17 December "1897"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

In accordance with your oral request, here I am sending two decanters of good cognac, two vials of perfumes and a lamp. Please accept them. The fact that I did not send more cognac is not because I am niggardly towards you, but because I am short of it. And now, may God protect you and enable us to meet again in safety.

I should like to request you for one thing: as Monsieur Comboul, who instals the machine for the gold mine in Wallaggā, requested me to send him some news, I am sending some newspapers and I beg you to take them to him. Please do not forget. I have included in them a letter of one of your[pl.] relations. I beg you my lord. Monsieur Comboul is in

520 For this type of date, see note 27 supra.

521 Cavaliere[?]

522 It is clear in the original that the official was about to set out on a journey, though it is unknown where to. His travel abroad apparently took place the following year. This time, he was probably going to a new governorate, possibly Sant.

Nağğo. But Dağğāzmāč Gabra Egziᶜabḥēr can take them to him. May God reward you. I entreat with you not to forget me. My lady, too, sends her bountiful greetings.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 9th day of Tāḥśāś [= 17 December "1897"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

228. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Mannāgašā Camp 19 December 1897

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I found in Mannāgašā timber pieces 13 metres each. I have not understood their purpose. And now let it be that you come to Mannāgašā tomorrow morning with the drawings.

Given at the Mannāgašā Camp on the 11th day of Tāḥśāś 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 19 December 1897].

229. Salisbury to Menilek II
"London" 12 January 1898

Telegram from Lord Salisbury[523]
to Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.[524]

Your Majesty!

On grounds of the existing friendship between your state and our state, we should impart to you the following:

Khalifa Abdallah,[525] at the head of a huge Dervish army, has started out to attack the Egyptian force at Berber. When this news reached Her Majesty's government, the English force

523 = Robert Arthur Talbot Gascoyne-Cecil, 3rd Marquess of Salisbury, 1830-1903, British Conservative politician who held the foreign office intermittently since 1878. He held the prime ministership in 1885--86, 1886--92, and 1895--1902, all the time giving his main attention to foreign policy. Cf. Brockhaus 1908 vol. 14 p. 219; Ency.Brit. 1961 vol 19 pp. 882-85.

524 The structure of this address is somewhat curious in the original which can be rendered as, "To the King of Kings [of] Ethiopia, Menilek II."

525 = Abd Allahi Muḥammad Turshain, Khalifat al-Mahdi (1846-99), commander of the Mahdist forces and ruler of the Mahdist state in the Sudan, 1885-98. Richard Hill, A Biographical Dictionary of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (Oxford 1951) pp. 5 f.

[in] the protectorate of Egypt was ordered to go for help. As a substitute, another military force has started out from England to guard Egypt and to serve as a reinforcement to that sent to Berber. I am sending this message well in advance so that our action may not give Your Majesty a different impression. Mr. Harrington will discuss with Your Majesty news of this as well as about other things, as well as whatever you may wish when he comes to your capital city.[526]

230. Cunningham to Menilek II
Aden 13 January 1898

From General Cunningham[527], governor-general of Aden.
May it reach the venerated and supreme Menilek II, King of Kings [of] Ethiopia.[528]
I am pleased to send you the wire [message] sent by Lord Salisbury on 5 Ṭer 1890 [= 12 January 1898]. May God give [you] health on my behalf.
[Signature]: ... [only partially legible]
General Cunningham, governor of Aden.
Written on 6 Ṭer 1890 [= 13 January 1898].[529]

526 The English version (presumably the original) found in the same collection reads: "From Lord Salisbury.
To His Majesty King Menilek II.
Your Majesty, In view of the feeling of friendship which exists between our two countries, I think it right to inform you that intelligence having reached Her Majesty's government that the Khalifa Abdallah is concentrating large force of Dervishes with the ... object of attacking the ... Egyptian troops now in occupation of Berber. It has been decided to strengthen the latter force by a contingent of British troops from our garrison at Cairo. It is necessary, therefore, to replace the British troops which are being sent to the scene of action in the Nile valley by the reinforcements from England. I send you this early information in order that Your Majesty may be under no misapprehension as to our action in the reasons which dictate it. Further information on this and other matters of interest to you will be furnished to Your Majesty by Lieutenant Harrington when he visits your capital.
12th January 1898."

527 This person is given as "governor of Aden" in the Amharic version of the present document, but as Public Relations Officer in the English version of the same document. He is not entered in the reference works available in the course of the research. He may be the same as the Scottish writer and politician, Robert Bontine Cunningham Graham who was born in London 1852 and died in Buenos Aires in 1936. He wrote more than 30 travel and related books. Among them an Arab-related one: Mogreb-el-Acksa (short stories), 1898. Cf. MeyEnzy VI (1972) p. 128.

528 In the original, a part of this sentence is transposed indicating probably that the Amharic translator was not fluent in the language.

529 The English version (presumably the original) found in the same collection reads as follows:
"From
General Cunningham
Governor of Aden
To
His Majesty Menilek II
King of Kings of Ethiopia

231. Mondon-Vidailhet to Menilek II
Paris 16 January "1898"

May it reach the Elect of God, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. Sent by Monsieur Mondon.

Your Majesty!

I hope the two letters I sent Your Majesty from Djibouti have safely reached you. Now I have arrived in the city of Paris. So far, my health has not been so good or so bad. First of all, I should like to see the physicians and have the evil thing in my eyes removed with a scalpel[530]. It has troubled me very much. May God will it. The news I sent Your Majesty regarding the English affairs in Africa was very true. They are creating problems in the country called Uganda[531]. They have dispatched against it two army contingents from India via Mombasa. They also say something before you and do another thing surreptitiously. Hence, the friends of Ethiopia are worried. It is said that they intend to cede the town of Zeila to propitiate Your Majesty. Such a present is not intended as a token of friendship for Your Majesty or Ethiopia. If they give you Zeila, who will guard it? Ethiopia's strength is not on the sea. Even if they give ships to Ethiopia, who will guard the ships? Their wish to approach [you] is a pretext. I will dispatch to Your Majesty [a report] about all that has been discussed yesterday in the French parliament. It includes the speech of Monsieur Deloncle.[532] My brother, Monsieur Chefneux, and I met very often. I was delighted. He was somewhat ill earlier. He is now all right. He will depart for Djibouti this week. He has accomplished all his business. He has collected a great deal of money for the construction of the railway and intensive work will soon commence. In the next few days, I will see the ministers and write to Your Majesty what has been discussed. Your servant, Makwriyā, has remained behind in my home town to learn French. So far, all the students praise him. I pay my obeisance to Your Majesty wishing that God give you health.

Written in the city of Paris on the 9 Ṭer [= 16 January "1898"].

[Signature]: Mondon

I have the pleasure to send herewith a telegram from Lord Salisbury to Your Majesty Dated 12th January 1898

May the Lord preserve you.
[Signature]: Cunningham
Brigadier-General
Political Relations Aden
13th January 1898."

Whether the Amharic translation was made in Aden or Addis Ababā is not clear.

530 Lit. with a pocket knife.

531 This name may also be read "Buganda" in the original.

532 This sentence is very vague in the original. The French official mentioned here was François Deloncle, a deputy in the 1890s and the early years of the 20th century. He was said to be "an ardent colonialist and chief editor of Le Siècle". He was well disposed toward Alfred Ilg and Léon Chefneux whom he saw as promoters of French interests. His brother, Joseph, was acting governor of Djibouti where he died of cholera in 1892. Mén p. 323; LoepIlg pp. 22, 116-18 and passim.

232. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Menilek II
Djibouti 31 January "1898"

May it reach my lord, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your Majesty!

The agent of Monsieur Chefneux has done the following: Taking with him Abyssinian men, he went to the country of the Somali, launched an attack and looted camels. He killed Somālē and came back. He entered Djibouti. When I said to him, "A letter of His Majesty has come; give me [goods] to transport," he went up to Ḥarargē hurriedly. I warned him, but he left for Ḥarargē. The rent for a camel was formerly 35 [or] 34 Rupees. Saying, "you have no idea" and insulting me repeatedly, he raised it to 40 Rupees. I have never heard or seen rent of 40 Rupees in Djibouti. He initiated it. I have written all these things earlier. I do not know if it has reached [you]. Your Majesty, all the Somali elders and ordinary people say as follows: "Why! What have we done that we be attacked, albeit we transported the goods of His Majesty?" I told them, "His Majesty has not heard about all these things." I told him to give me the goods; but he refused and went up to Ḥarargē. Your Majesty, let me know [your decision] concerning this matter. He denied me the goods to be transported; and after disturbing the route, he came back. Your Majesty knows this matter. I told him as follows: "Behold, a letter of His Majesty came on the 19th day of Ṭer [= 26 January]; it says, 'Receive and transport five thousand rifles'." He refused and left. Monsieur Lingot, the agent of Monsieur Lagarde, has heard him uttering his refusal. "He refused; what can you do?" he said to me. I found no one who would hear me! Know that I am staying [here] idle.

Says your servant, Naggādrās Muḥammad.

Djibouti 24 Ṭer [= 31 January "1898"].

[Seal]: Mohamed Aboubakar.[533]

233. Alfred Ilg to Tasammā Nādaw
Addis Ababā 2 February "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Daǧǧāzmāč Tasammā. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

My lord, your letter has reached me. But Monsieur Carrette has not yet arrived. Nothing has come for me. We are told that it [the caravan] is still in Ērar. When it arrives, I will send you [what you requested] quickly [and] without delay. And now, quite a few letters have come for Monsieur de Bonchamps and I am sending them [to you]. In case it is possible to deliver them, please send them to him immediately. May God enable us to meet

533 In three scripts: Ethiopic, Arabic and Latin.

again in safety.
[Written in] the city of Addis Ababā on the 26th day of Ṭer [= 2 February "1898"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

234. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā
Addis Ababā 2 February "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach Ato Dabalā. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

I had hoped that you would come quickly. Now, however, I have something of concern and I wish that you stay further in Djibouti. If you receive this letter en route, I should like you to return to Djibouti. The reason is as follows: My wife is going to give birth to a child in Genbot[534] and, thinking that it is good in any case I have a diligent and gentle nurse coming from my home country. This woman will come from my country and land in Djibouti on the 12th day of Maggābit [= 21 March], and I am sending now to Djibouti Ergaṭē together with other youths with mules and a tent to bring her [here] safely. You are skilled in choosing routes and in all the caravan[535] matters. I should like you to come with them. I say this, because I trust you very much. This woman is a very good friend of ours. She is also a very good person. Please, my son, show me your diligence today. I have sent a request to Monsieur Harrington, the governor of Zeila, to send on my behalf five camels to Djibouti. He is my friend, and he will probably send [them]. I will also send all other things when Ergaṭē starts out from here. May God protect you till we meet.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 26th day of Ṭer [= 2 February "1898"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

235. Mondon-Vidailhet to Menilek II
Paris 8 February "1898"

May it reach Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

Your Majesty!

I am about to leave the hospital. They had suggested to me to open four windows in my eyes and I agreed; it is now done. How clever those physicians are! I did not feel it at all when they worked on [me] with their scalpel. My health has improved. I hope for much

534 Corresponding to 8.5.-6.6.1898.

535 The term "safar" usually refers to camp or zone. But in this and a few other contexts, it refers to the caravan as well.

more by the will of God and the favour of your guardian angel. I have seen all the grandees of our country. The ministers, and above all the foreign minister by the name of Monsieur Hanotaux[536], praised Your Majesty, saying, "He is a great king". All the people adore Ethiopia and Your Majesty.[537] They only request one thing - that France may trade with Ethiopia. They fear the intrigues of the English, saying that they [the English] want to exploit Ethiopia. I replied: "Have no fear. Today the Ethiopian government is a strong government." They were delighted. Before this letter reaches [you], Monsieur Chefneux may be with Your Majesty. The officials in Zeila have instigated the Somālē in the neighbourhood of Djibouti to rebel. The reason for it is the railway. Monsieur Chefneux will relate to Your Majesty all about it. I have written this letter so that Your Majesty may keep me in mind and send me news.[538] May God give you health on my behalf; I pay obeisance wishing that He enables us to meet again.

Written in the city of Paris on 2 Yakkātit [= 8 February "1898"].
[Signature]: Mondon.

236. Muḥammad Abubakkar to Menilek II
Djibouti 22 February "1898"

May it reach my lord, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

Your Majesty!

Though I have written to you concerning Monsieur Carrette, I have received no reply. I had written a letter to Monsieur Chefneux. He wrote a letter on my behalf that they should give me [the goods]. Two months after Monsieur Carrette refused me and left for Šawā, they gave me [the goods] on account of the letter of Monsieur Chefneux. They told me to transport only ammunitions. I agreed so that I might not be idle, and I am transporting ammunitions today. From the 2nd day of Yakkātit [= 8 February] to the 14th[539] [= 21 February], I transported 672 boxes of ammunition. They refused to give me the rifles. Monsieur Carrette left an agent when he went up to Ḥarargē. When I requested him to give [them to] me, he troubled me by withholding the key and saying, "Wait, now it is sleeping time; now it is meal time." This trick is a device of Monsieur Carrette. He must have told him not to hand over the key. If the key were in my hands, it would have been convenient for me to load whenever a cameleer comes. Now they have told me to transport only

536 = Gabriel Hanotaux, French foreign minister in the 1890s, historian and politician; 1892-94, director in the ministry of foreign affairs; May 1894 to October 1895, foreign minister; April 1896 to June 1898, administered the same ministry under Méline. Cf. Brockhaus 1908, vol. 8 p. 778.

537 This sentence is very vague in the original and, hence, difficult to translate with certainty.

538 Again, this sentence is imprecise.

539 This may also be translated as "up to 14 days" i.e. up to the 16th of the month.

ammunitions and I am transporting ammunitions. I request you to write a letter on my behalf so that they may give me rifles when the ammunition is finished. I beg not to let me go without a letter of Your Majesty whenever the post comes.

Djibouti on the 15th day of Yakkātit [= 22 February "1898"].
Says Naggādrās Muḥammad, your servant.
[Seal]: Mohamed Aboubakar.

237. Alfred Ilg to Dabalā & Ergaṭē
Addis Ababā 4 March "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach Ato Dabalā and Ato Ergaṭē. How have you been? I thank God, am well.

By the time this letter reaches you, I hope you arrive safely in Djibouti and receive Luisa Friedrich well. And now, may God bring you safely here to us. Do not tarry on the way. Let it be that Luisa comes to us quickly. Furthermore, if the nurse of Monsieur Savouré wishes to travel with you, let her come. However, not using the tent of Luisa; only if she has her own tent and servants. Furthermore, if she has a great deal of luggage it won't do. Give her only one camel. Do not give in if she says she needs two or three camels. It is not good if the caravan is big. Do not include other people. They will all be commanders and they will confuse you. If you are alone, you can travel as you like. Hence, be careful, my children. My wife is very anxious about your coming. I entreat with you [to heed my advice]. Furthermore, as soon as Luisa arrives, write a letter, address it to Madame Ilg and entreat with Monsieur Manigot to send it through the messenger of Monsieur Lagarde. At any rate, give the letter to Monsieur Manigot quickly before the messenger of Monsieur Lagarde sets out. I have also sent you a letter to Ḥarargē.

[Written in] Addis Ababā on the 26th of Yakkātit [= 4 March "1898"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

238. Alfred Ilg to Tasammā Nādaw
Addis Ababā 7 March "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Dağğāzmāč Tasammā. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

The letter you sent me and the two excellent lances have reached me. May God reward you manifoldly. I have given your servant 120 cartridges, and please accept them. The metallic white cartridges without incision are suitable for [killing] elephants. The ones with incisions are appropriate for [hunting] other big animals and for war. Those whose lead is

visible are suitable for war. This you must observe well. Everything is fine with us here. The envoys of the Russian and Italian governments have arrived. They have had a good audience with His Majesty, and matters are going smoothly. And now, we are greatly pleased to hear that you are leaving for the White Nile. May God go with you. Do not forget your friend, my lord, if you find a specimen.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 29th day of Yakkātit [= 7 March "1898"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

[P.S.]: Please pass the forthcoming box on to Monsieur de Bonchamps.

239. Alfred Ilg to Mangašā Atikam
Addis Ababā 10 March "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās bitwaddad Mangašā. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well. I have received your letter. Thank you. I hear from Europe about the expedition of Rās Mangašā. All the newspapers propagate it a great deal: some allege that he is marching against the Italians, others against Khassala to oust the English, while others say that he is marching against the Dervishes. The governments are very much perplexed [about it] let alone the people. And now, the English attempt to go up to Khartoum immediately. Many British and Egyptian soldiers have been gathering in Berber. A railway-line is also being constructed in all haste from Suakin. Furthermore, the English in Khassala claim to have defeated many Dervishes. I beg you, my lord, to send whatever news you find to His Majesty. Do not be inactive. May God let us meet again in safety.

Written in Addis Ababā on the 2nd day of Maggābit [= 10 March "1898"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

240. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 31 March "1898"

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg.

Letters have come from Rās Makwannen and others. They have driven out Abdarhumān, broken his mountain stronghold and are residing in his town. This is to inform you about their safety.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 23rd day of Maggābit (= 31 March "1898"].

241. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
"Ḥarargē" 9 June "1898"

May it reach my venerated friend, Monsieur Ilg. Sent by Rās Makwannen. How have you been? What about your health? I, thank God, am well. Isn't your wife well? How is she?

Let it be that that rifle of mine which is with you is repaired quickly and sent to me soon in its box which is with Azzāž Walda Giyorgis[540]. Please do so. Send me also the map quickly after reaching an agreement with the Italian and drawing it up, and formalizing it in the presence of His Majesty, if possible, or else both of you conclude it and he should set his seal on it. Take it to heart. Fetch also from the Italian the letter which my people should take with them when they go down, and send it to me. Please do so. Above all, write to me about the state of your health and the well-being of your wife.

Written on the 3rd day of Sanē (= 9 June "1898"].

[Seal]: Rās Makonnen, H.

242. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 14 June 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg.

It is a long time since those English came. Ten days have elapsed during which they have not had an audience with me. It is perhaps better that they should have an audience today at 4 o'clock so that they may not be disappointed. I just wanted to inform you about it.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 8th day of Sanē 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 14 June 1898].

243. Menilek II to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Addis Ababā 25 June 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Rās Makwannen. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

540 The original has "Walgiyorgis", apparently a writing mistake.

Let it be that you give to the Russian, Monsieur Kohkovski, a horse with its trappings.
Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Sanē 1890 of the Year of Grace [= 25 June 1898].

244. Yebsā to Alfred Ilg
"Addis Ababā" 1 July "1898"

Sent by Šālaqā Yebsā. May it reach Monsieur Ilg.
The following articles, to be sent to Monsieur Comboul, are ready here: an *amolē* soap, two *amolē* sugar, fifty white lamps [candles?], two *nater* black pepper, a tin of arrack, and 200 Thalers. A letter has also been written to Dağğāzmāč Gabra Egzi^{c}abḥēr [to offer him] a beef cow and coffee so that he may not have any shortage. Let it be that you, too, write all this to Monsieur Comboul.
Written on the 25th day of Sanē [= 1 July "1898"].

245. Alfred Ilg to Waldē Aššāgrē
Addis Ababā 10 August "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord and friend, Dağğāzmāč Waldē[541]. I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been? I, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, am well.
You have travelled a long distance! Have you got used to our country? I have no doubt that you will be received well in every country. And now, Monsieur Chefneux has gone to the city of Paris, and you should inform him whenever you have a problem. Trust him as much as you would trust me, for he is a great friend of Ethiopia and of His Majesty. He is a very loyal person.
There is no news in Addis Ababā. We have received no news of Dağğāzmāč Tasammā[542]. However, the country is peaceful. The rainy season here has been extremely wet, and I suppose you, too, are having a great deal of rain[543]. The houses and roads of [those] countries are nonetheless good. Vehicles[544] are also numerous. You will not have much difficulty. What about champagne and wine?

541 Later Rās. A provincial governor and one of the most influential courtiers. In 1898, he led a delegation to Europe. Ilg wrote on the same day to two other members of the delegation - Liqa makwās Nādaw and Dağğāzmāč Berru - rather intimately, but with less substance.
542 Probably Tasammā Nādaw who was a close friend of Waldē.
543 Ilg wrote to Dağğāzmāč Berru: "We have become like frogs this year". Cf. Doc 246.
544 The Amharic term used is the equivalent of 'chariot', but he probably meant any means of transport, including trains.

May God return you home well and let us meet in safety.
Written in Addis Ababā on the 5th day of Naḥasē [= 10 August "1898"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

246. Alfred Ilg to Berru Ḫayla Māryām
Addis Ababā 10 August "1898"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach Dağğāzmāč Berru. How have you indeed been, my friend? By the grace of God and through the help of your guardian angel, I am well. My wife sends her greetings bountifully.

You have acclimatized yourself to the country of the *Faranği*, but why are you perplexing the *Faranği* women? Watch out, they are energetic and may not hesitate to follow [you] up to here. There are many other good things; see those and come back.

There is no news here on our side. The rainy season is in full swing.[545] We have become like frogs this year. And now, come back soon; you will not be able to stand the cold of our country[546]. May God bring you back in safety.
Written in Addis Ababā on 5 Naḥasē [= 10 August "1898"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

247. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Ğehur Camp 6 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

With regard to the matter of Monsieur Lagarde, I, too, have sent him a letter. With regard to the matter of Monsieur Chefneux, I am sending you the reply today in a hurry, as I am on a journey. I will write all in detail after We have rested. I am writing this one only to acknowledge receipt of your letter. I have also sent [word to] Dağğāč Berru according to your suggestion.

Given at Ğehur Camp on the 28th day of Ṭeqqemt 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 6 November 1898].

545 Lit. "The rainy season is coming". The rainy season begins on the Ethiopian highlands in the month of June at the latest. The next sentence shows that it had actually reached its climax at the time the letter was written.
546 = continent i.e. Europe.

248. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 15 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The breech-block of the bronze cannon has been interchanged [by mistake] and, hence, I am sending you herewith the breech-block which was with me. The number: 1 94 90. Look for the breech-block with this number among the bronze cannons and give it to Azzāž Gezāw, and let him come to me quickly. The copper pins to be fitted in the breech-block are in the magazine; send me five copper pins together with the breech-block.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 7th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 15 November 1898].

249. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 28th day of Ṭeqqemt [= 6 November] has reached me. I have seen the letter which you wrote[547] and sent to me to be dispatched to Monsieur Harrington as well as all the matter he discussed with you which you reported to me. All is fine. I have written and sent a reply to him. You have said that Monsieur Chefneux promised to send 150 boxes of Thalers. Accordingly, I have told Rās Makwannen to have them transported.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 8th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [=16 November 1898].

547 It is not clear in the original whether Ilg drafted the letter independently or rewrote a royal draft or did only the translation into a European language.

250. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I had hoped that the rifle which the Prince d'Orléans had sent me would reach me together with your letter. And now let it be that it is sent to me.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 8th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 16 November 1898].

251. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I have heard of the arrival of Monsieur Leontiev and the Prince d'Orléans. However, they should not come here, for I will visit Gešēn and come back soon. Let it be that they wait for me in Addis Ababā.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 8th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 16 November 1898].

252. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

You had sent me [word] that Monsieur Comboul should not be left idle and, hence, I have sent [word] to Azzāž Gezāw concerning the matter of the silver.

Given in the town of Warraylu on 8th of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 16 November 1898].[548]

548 The date of the original is badly written, being somewhat confused with the year.

253. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 16 November 1898

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

By the grace of God I have reached Warraylu safely. Rās Makwannen told me that you requested him to convey your greetings to me. How about you[pl.] and the health of the child?

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 8th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 16 November 1898].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

254. Menilek II's Decree Concerning Tegrāy
Warraylu 18 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

Hark, O people of Tegrē!

Rās Mangašā deserted me before this, although I had imprisoned Daǧǧāč Śeyyum and appointed him instead. Once again he has now deserted me - his father and friend - although I re-established him in office and returned after uprooting the thorn.

O people of Tegrē, monasteries and notables!

Perceive my distress, [seeing] how Mangašā has hated me when I loved him. I appointed him nonetheless, to show my gratitude to Emperor Yoḥannes, against the wishes of the notables and the soldiers. The earth has rejected and dismissed him, however; not that I mistreated him. And now, O people of Tegrē, you are my friends. I shall not destroy you on account of being angered by the desertion of Rās Mangašā. I will take over my country which God has bestowed upon me and I will promote you; I will please you. Do not worry, submit yourselves. I will reinstate you to the positions of your fathers: Bless your fathers; curse your fathers.[549] I have given you my son and friend, Rās Makwannen, who can fulfil the wishes of your hearts and who is congenial to you in character. I have joined Tegrē to Ḥarargē so that he will promote and benefit you. He can give you from his own; he seeks

549 This is one of the recurrent expressions of traditional Ethiopian decrees intended to restore a previous status quo presumably liked by the people, but in which of course not all will necessarily feel comfortable, for the latter of which the new authority makes the ancestors responsible. Emperor Tewodros (1855-68] attempted to reform the formula by offering that those who did not have ancestral offices or estates could count on him as a substitute. Cf Bairu Tafla, "The Awag: an Institution of Political Culture in Traditional Ethiopia" = Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference of Ethiopian Studies (Arlöv, Sweden, 1984) p. 369.

nothing from Tegrē. Farmer, attend to your farm, and trader, pursue your trade. If you are hereafter found with Mangašā, you are spiritually excommunicated, and bodily I will punish you. I will deprive you of your landed property and estate down to the third generation.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 10th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 18 November 1898].

255. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 26 November 1898

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 5th day of Ḥedār [= 13 November] has reached me. I have heard about your trip to Qunni and all the news you had sent me. I have seen the telegraph message Monsieur Chefneux dispatched. I was not aware of Rās Makwannen's instruction that the four million Francs should be deposited in the bank. He telegraphed this message probably because he had not heard what We had discussed. And now, the four million Francs which you said have been deposited in the bank should remain there and you should receive the interest thereof until We order to withdraw it. The remaining six million [Francs] however should be used for the minting of Thalers which should be brought to me quickly. With regard to what you said about the Isā and the Adāl and the difficulty of importing products, I have sent [word] to Monsieur Lagarde. I have also issued a strict order to the officials in Ḥarargē. Concerning your message that the Russian by the name of Monsieur Dimetreff requests a decoration, General Vlassoff did not tell me about it while I was there. If I send him one without his [Vlassoff's] permission, he may be offended to our disadvantage. With regard to your statement that the English Captain Wellby, who came with Monsieur Harrington, seeks permission to travel to Lake Rudolf via Zwāy, Walāmo and Borodā, I have instructed Azzāž Gezāw to escort him to Fitāwrāri Habta Māryām[550]. I have also sent someone who will thereafter receive men from the officers of Fitāwrāri Habta Giyorgis and accompany him as far as Lake Rudolf. I have given a strict order to the officials. As to your statement that Monsieur Harrington sought permission for rich Englishmen to go upland via Zeila and Barbara to hunt wild animals, who prevents anyone from hunting wild animals? However, it is not convenient to write to the officials at the border unless Monsieur Harrington sends us a list of specific names of

550 Probably the same as Habta Māryām Bayyān (later Dağğāzmāč and Rās respectively), the maternal uncle of Empress Zawditu. He governed various provinces including Yağğu, Walāmo and Wallaggā. He died in Wallaggā in 1929. HWSBiog p. 3; MSEthCul p. 211.

those who have come to hunt wild animals. In any case I shall return soon and we shall discuss everything there.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 18th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 26 November 1898].

256. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 27 November 1898

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your greetings have reached me. I have also heard that you have gone down to Qunni. May God let you come back in safety.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 19th day of Ḥedār 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 27 November 1898].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

257. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 4 January 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

When I heard that Rās Mangašā intended to occupy the Alāgē pass and fight, I had made a forced march so that he might not escape if the matter were true. When I reached Ašangē eight days after I left Warraylu, Rās Makwannen and others sent me [word] saying, "Rās Mangašā fled to ʾAgāmē well in advance [of our coming] and we have entered Maqalē; there is nothing to worry about". Hence, I returned from Ašangē. I arrived in Warraylu on Tuesday, the 26th day of Tāḫśāś [= 1 January]. Your letter also reached me just when I arrived in Warraylu. The letter you sent me is nevertheless undated; it must have been forgotten. Why did you not write to me that it was written on such and such a day? I have been pleased to hear that the telephone technicians and a watchmaker have arrived. But I was also saddened very much at the death of one of the telephone technicians. In so far as the newly arriving guests have sent their regards, convey my greetings to them. With regard to your request for thatch-grass, the houses I intend to have built in Addis Ababā are many and I had given instructions that no grass should be misused. And now I have sent [word] to Azzāž Gezāw, and let it be that you take some amount, but you should return the same amount later. Send me any news available one by one as they come. May God enable us to

meet again in life.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 27th day of Tāḥśāś 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 4 January 1899].

258. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 5 January 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

There is something we should deliberate upon and, hence, let it be that you come quickly[551]; you will return after the meeting.

Given at Warraylu town on the 28th day of Tāḥśāś 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 5 January 1899].

259. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 13 January 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in Addis Ababā on the 29th day of Tāḥśāś [6 January] has reached me. I have been pleased that you reported to me about everything. With regard to your statement that Monsieur Harrington has a problem with house construction, I have ordered Ato Yeglaṭu, the proxy of Tullu Dimtu, to construct one for him. With regard to the wild animal hunters you mentioned, let a list of their names come and I will send [word] for them. I have not written to you about the other matters, because I thought we should discuss everything when we meet, for I have recently sent you [word] to come and consequently you may presumably be already on the way. I am sending herewith a watch on which the newly arrived watchmaker can begin his work. Let it be that it be repaired quickly and sent back. Give my compliments to your wife and your brother-in-law.

Given at the town of Warraylu on the 6th day of Ṭer 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 13 January 1899].

551 The Amharic term used in the original is the equivalent of "make a forced march".

260. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 14 January 1899

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 29th day of Tāḥśāś has reached me. His Majesty has come back in safety. I, too, am enjoying good health. There is nothing to worry about on this side. Give my compliments to your wife, your brother-in-law and his wife.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 7th day of Ṭer 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 14 January 1899].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

261. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Warraylu 24 January 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

We had said that [some] *Šānqelloč*, who could work for Monsieur Comboul in the gold mines, must be sought. Rās Walda Giyorgis has sent me [word] that he has gathered together 100 *Šānqellā* men and 100 *[Šānqellā]* women. When he kept them in Kafā, however, they caused a problem by escaping to their own country which is nearby and, hence, he says he sent them from Kafā to Limmu. Now that he has said that someone should come and collect them, let it be that you send someone to Limmu and move them to where they should work. I have written to Rās Walda Giyorgis so that the officials of Rās Walda Giyorgis who are in Limmu may not object.

Given in the town of Warraylu on the 17th day of Ṭer 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 24 January 1899].

262. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 30 January 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Good tidings! Rās Mangašā has submitted to Rās Makwannen through reconciliation. He will come here to me together with Rās Mikāᶜēl.

Given at the town of Dasē on the 23rd day of Ṭer 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 30 January 1899].

263. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 16 February "1899"[?]

May it reach my venerated friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Plenty of peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and all its regions.

By the grace of God, all matters were uncomplicated. Rās Mangašā submitted. Taking him with me, I came as far as Dasē, where His Majesty was, and had an audience. Throughout the journey in Tegrē, there was nothing evil that encountered us. I am imparting to you herewith that the succour of God was with us. May God give you plenty of peace and health.

Written in the town of Dasē on the 10th day of Yakkātit [= 16 February "1899"].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

264. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Dasē 19 February 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 29th day of Ṭer [= 5 February] has reached me. With regard to the telephone installation, I have sent a serious word to Grāzmāč Bāntē urging him to work speedily. Rās Makwannen has come here to me. He, too, has sent him [word].

Given at the town of Dasē on the 13th day of Yakkātit 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 19 February 1899].

265. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Ēfrātā Camp 10 March 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written on the 23rd day of Yakkātit [= 1 March] has reached me. I have also heard what you sent me. May God praise you. The death of Monsieur Félix Faure is rather sad. In accordance with your suggestion, I have now addressed letters to the wife of Monsieur Félix Faure, the French government and Monsieur Lagarde. With regard to Gabra Krestos, you have done well in suggesting that he should not hand over that which was assigned to Monsieur Chefneux. Send him a strong word again that he should not hand [it] out. I received the greetings of your wife and your kinsmen. Convey my greetings to them.

Given at Êfrātā Camp on the 2nd day of Maggābit 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 10 March 1899].

266. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Yefāt Royal Camp 16 March 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The death of Daǧǧāč Ḫayla Māryām[552] was made known to me on the 5th day of Maggābit [= 13 March]. Your letter has also reached me. You say, "We were not aware of the seriousness of Daǧǧāč Ḫayla Māryām's illness, however," and I regret it very much that he died without being attended to by physicians. Although man cannot change what God has predestined, it would have been better if physicians had examined him. In our country, a proverb goes: "As one who conceals his illness, so will his remedy be concealed from him". Thus was his case. What can be done! Rās Makwannen, too, was seriously ill after he came back to me from Tegrē. Physicians worked hard day and night, and through their effort he was saved for me, although it was [also] the will of God.

Given at the Royal Camp[553] of Yefāt on the 8th day of Maggābit 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 16 March 1899].

552 The elder brother of Rās Makwannen and, hence, first cousin of Menilek II. He governed a district in the upper region of the Gibē. He died of illness in 1900. He was survived by at least one son, Daǧǧāzmāč Berru. Cf. BulMen p. 34; HWSBiog p. 41; MSEthCul p. 241.

553 "Mangeśt Safar" may be the proper name of a locality in Yefāt, but it could not be located in the available sources in the course of the research.

267. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Addis Ababā 17 March "1899"

Your Majesty!
I pay my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. Today I have had a meeting with Monsieur Harrington and we spoke a little about the boundary treaty. When I asked him why he did not point out to Monsieur Ciccodicola that we would demarcate the boundary of the Sudan beginning with Todluk, he replied: "I have shown to the Italian government the map upon which we agreed with His Majesty two years ago". He also told me that he did not know whether the Italian government had informed Monsieur Ciccodicola about it or not. I asked him further why he was keeping quiet when Monsieur Ciccodicola was arranging with His Majesty about the Tomat-Todluk [boundary]. He replied: "I kept quiet assuming that it was none of my business what Monsieur Ciccodicola and His Majesty arrange [between them]."[554] When I asked him how the matter should now proceed he said: "Monsieur Ciccodicola will come tomorrow; I will discuss the matter with him and I will see how it will go." He also said to me: "I had thought that His Majesty was disposed toward helping the Italians". I told him: "His Majesty has no such intention; he does not wish to interfere in the affairs between the Italians and the English." I will subsequently point out to His Majesty what Monsieur Ciccodicola and Monsieur Harrington will have discussed.
Written in Addis Ababā on 9 Maggābit [= 17 March "1899"].
The loyal Servant of Your Majesty,
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

268. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Alēltu Camp 29 March 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me; I have seen the news you wrote me. I am now coming; I will arrive in Addis Ababā on Saturday. Hence, we shall discuss [matters] when we meet. Otherwise, what can I write to you now! Give my compliments to your wife and your kinsmen.

Given at Alēltu Camp on the 21st day of Maggābit 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 29 March 1899].

554 Two words in the original are scarcely legible, but the statement is understandable.

269. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 19 April 1899

May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Here is a wick which Monsieur Chefneux sent me. The light it produces is splendid. I am sending it to you so that you may light it and see it. Now, I had ordered a thin type of this wick; let it be that the order for the thin one be cancelled and that a large quantity of the thicker one be imported for me.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 12th day of Miyāzyā 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 19 April 1899].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

270. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 24 June 1899

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I was shocked when you sent me news of your illness. Your suffering is not only yours, but also Ours. May God make it light for you.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 18th day of Sanē 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 24 June 1899].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

271. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 30 June 1899

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

How about your illness? Are you not a little better today? I had planned to visit you on my return from church on the day of St. George.[555] But I could not see you, because it was rainy and, hence, I could not go to church. The reply to the letter you sent me yesterday will be too much to write. Hence, I will come to you on Sunday when returning from church and discuss

555 = 29 June 1899.

it at your house. Let it be also that Captain Ciccodicola comes to your house.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 24th day of Sanē 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 30 June 1899].

272. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg ... 27 July 1899

May it reach my honourable friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Ample peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, the governor of Ḥarar and all its districts.

The letter you sent has reached me. There is nothing I did to the Italians, let alone conflict, except stating [something] to intensify and broaden our friendship. They suspected war and did not believe that we really sought friendship. From the negative reports of the Tegroč and seeing the great size of my army here as well as the army that was coming from behind, they got an impression of [impending] war. It is not because I did or uttered something bad against them that they refused to supply grain and silver[556]. It is because they assumed war was inevitable and saw no reason to give away their money. I request you to notify Monsieur Ciccodicola on my behalf that I have not done anything wrong on this side. The two letters you sent me have reached me. Send me [more] in this way in the future. I beseech you my friend, my friend, for a person in a remote place feels happy to get a letter with kind words. I was happy to hear about the wellbeing of your wife, kinsmen and children. And now I beg you to give my greetings to your wife on my behalf. It is good that you killed an elephant before Count Leontiev exterminated all the elephants. May God give you good health and long life.

Written on 21 Ḥamlē 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 27 July 1899].

273. Walda Ṣādeq to Alfred Ilg ... 12 August "1899"

Sent by Wahni Ázzāž Walda Ṣādeq. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you[557] been? I, thank God, am well.

Behold, I have enquired after the transporters and found them. When I questioned them, they said that they came after transporting to, and unloading [the pieces of luggage] at, the custom-house from where a servant named Dammanā took them to the wife of Monsieur Savouré who paid them two Thalers each as transport fee and a Thaler for two as a tip for

556 Thaler[?]
557 Respect form.

suffering through the mud. They came after handing in the three trunks to the custom-house. But they said that the telephone workers[558] did not come. As to the poles, the people put them beside the holes where they should be erected and made charcoal.[559] As the people are [now] threatened by famine, they have left for their respective homes. In case I do not hear in advance about the arrival of the workers [technicians], let it be that you send me [news].

Written on 7 Naḥasē [= 12 August "1899"].

[Seal]: This seal [is] of Wahni Azzāž Walda Ṣādeq.[560]

274. Nasibu and Dastā to Panteno
Addis Ababā 3 September 1899

Sent by Afa negus Nasibu [and] Wayzaro Dastā[561]. May it reach our old friend, Lieutenant Panteno. How have you been since we parted?[562] We, thank God, are well.

We are very much delighted that your title has been changed to Monsieur Panteno. We used "Lieutenant Panteno" in our correspondence merely as a recollection of your old name. Now we are happy at the change of your name. All your earlier letters have reached us. The articles you had sent us - two photographs of yourself, a mirror which reflects one-third,[563] a box of perfumes, and a silk overall - reached us on Sunday 29 Naḥasē [= 3 September] at 3 o'clock. May God reward you on our behalf. We are more pleased at the sight of your photograph than with all these presents. And now to your pleasure: how is your mother getting on indeed, about whose love you used to tell us? We request you to tell us about your wellbeing and that of your mother as soon as this letter reaches you.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on 29 Naḥasē 1891 of the Year of Grace [= 3 September 1899].

[Seal]: Afa negus Nasibu.[564]

558 "Selk Sarrātañño" could as well mean "telephonists". But this is probably a reference to the Swiss technicians who arrived in Ethiopia in 1899 to install telephone lines.

559 This statement is rather vague in the original: it is not clear whether the people burnt the poles for charcoal or they produced charcoal while cutting the poles.

560 Cf. Mén fig. 41.

561 Ca. 1863-1948, a native of Ežā, Gurāgē, and wife of Afa negus Nasibu. She was brought up at the royal court and was one of the most respected women of the period. After the death of her husband in 1908, she became a nun and retired to Jerusalem where she died of old age. She had benefited the Ethiopian cloister by dedicating a house in the same city.

562 Lit. "How have you spent the rainy season since we parted?"

563 The significance of this is not clear.

564 Cf. Mén fig. 45.

275. Abbā Endreyās to Menilek II
Ḥarar 10 September 1899

May it reach His Imperial Majesty, chosen and installed by God over Ethiopia, Menilek II.

He whom Your Majesty loved and who used to love her [Ethiopia] has died. Abuna Yā'eqob was a great loyal friend to Ethiopia. His advice was indeed a succour and an enrichment. He was also a great refuge for the poor. Nevertheless, now he has left this earth to inherit[565] the kingdom God has prepared for him. Just as Ēlsa'e cried when his father, Elias, ascended to heaven in a chariot, so have we cried to the angel who took the soul of our honourable father and ascended [with it] to heaven. Behold, his revered name has descended[566] upon us as a twofold blessing just as Elias was believed twofold.[567]

Your Imperial Majesty!

As we hear the fame of your fatherhood to the poor, cover us, the poor children of Abbā Yā'eqob, under your royal riding *barnos* canopy. We, too, trust in Your Majesty. O father of the poor! To be referred to as subjects of His Majesty and as loyal children is a pride and pleasure for us, from the youngest to the oldest, for our hearts have suffered sorrow. Our trust and hope next to God are in Your Majesty, O sublime King of Kings. Says Abbā Endreyās[568], the spiritual son of Abbā Yā'eqob.

Written in Ḥarar on the 6th of Ṗāgumēn 1891, 10 September 1899 according to the European calendar.

[Seal]: Mission Catholique

276. Menilek II's Certificate of Merit
"Addis Ababā 4 October 1899"

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

Hakim Lebedinsky Michael Ivanitch, sent by the Russian government, has rendered great service to Us, to the Empress, and to Our notables without tiring of helping anyone. He has pleased us in all his activities. We have recognized his skill and diligence. Hence, We have bestowed upon him the title of Privy Physician of Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

565 Lit. "to ascend the kingdom".

566 The Amharic suffix "ben" is probably a mistake for "len" in this context.

567 The significance of the last part of this sentence is not clear.

568 It is difficult to identify this person with certainty. He was possibly Mgr. André Jarosseau (1858-1941), the successor of Mgr. Taurin de Cahagne in the leadership of the Catholic mission in southern Ethiopia. He was better known by his first name in Ethiopia. Cf. ZGSYoh p. 281. The letter, however, shows no trace of foreign influence.

277. Makwannen Walda Mikā'ēl to Alfred Ilg
Maqalē 7 November "1899"

May it reach my honourable friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Ample peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and all its districts.

Your letter written on the 23rd of Maskaram [= 1 October] reached me on the 22nd of Ṭeqqemt [= 31 October]. You sent me [word] that you are leaving, which is a very sad thing. Your stock of knowledge has been of much better service to us than that of those who claim to have acquired new knowledge. As far as I am concerned, I am unhappy with your departure. It would have been good if you could stay, at least until you and I meet. I cannot write you news from this side, as all the news I hear comes from your side; there is hardly any news from this side. Even if newspapers come, they are two or three months old by the time they reach me. It would be good if you could send me [information] about everything from your side. In case you leave before we meet, may God enable us to meet each other again. Give my best regards to your wife on my behalf. May God enable your children, your relations to reach your home in safety. In order that no difficulty may be encountered on the way in Č̣arč̣ar and Ḥarar, I am herewith sending [instruction] to Grāzmāč Bāntē. May God give you plenty of health.

Written in the town of Maqalē on the 28th of Ṭeqqemt [= 7 November "1899"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

278. Mining Concession Contract of C. W. Lane
Addis Ababā 26 December 1899

Copie

Cachet Impériale d'Ethiopie

On behalf of my successor[s] and myself, I, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia, have granted the concession contained in this document to the Englishman, Monsieur Church William Lane,[569] resident of London, and the companies he has established.

1. I have granted permission to Monsieur Lane to prospect for gold, silver and other minerals throughout the whole land of Bēnišāngul[570] for a period of four years. The four-year period begins with the first digging. The four-years' privilege is granted exclusively to Monsieur Lane and his companies. I shall not grant a similar concession to

569 This gentleman could not be identified in the course of the research. The Encyclopaedia Britannica of 1979 mentions only one American geologist by that name, but there is no hint to his residence in London or his undertaking of a mining concession of any kind.

570 Western Wallaggā of today. Cf. Alessandro Triulzi, Salt, Gold and Legitimacy: Prelude to the History of a No-Man's-Land, Bela Shangul, Wallaggā, Ethiopia (ca. 1800-1898) (Naples 1981).

others in Bēnišāngul during the four years. However, the peasants shall not be hindered from extracting gold in accordance with their custom. If the men of Monsieur Lane discover gold, silver, or any other mineral within the four years, I have granted Monsieur Lane and his companies [the right] to extract gold, silver or any other mineral for [a period of] fifty years.

2. I have granted permission to Monsieur Lane and his companies to import all instruments necessary for the mining of gold, silver or any other mineral - including machines, mills, trucks, and telephone equipment - and install them in the land of the Bēnišāngul, as well as to construct roads or canals. However, this concession granted today does not nullify the concessions previously granted to others.

3. I have granted herewith permission for the import into the Ethiopian Empire and customs-free passage to Bēnišāngul of all implements - including machines, gunpowder, dynamite and other devices - required for mining gold, silver or other minerals or for levering out rocks.

4. I have granted permission to Monsieur Lane and his associates to travel unhampered within my dominion.

5. The employees of Monsieur Lane's companies shall, in case of dispute among themselves, be judged, heard or punished by a judge appointed by the companies themselves. Murder cases will, however, be tried and judged by His Imperial Majesty.

His Imperial Majesty, Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia, has granted this written concession to Monsieur Lane and his companies. Hence, Monsieur Lane and his companies shall yield to the Ethiopian government 8 per cent of the gold, silver and other minerals they will have mined. If the total of the 8 per cent to be handed over to the Ethiopian government is less than 500 *Waqēt,* they shall raise the amount to be delivered to 500 *Waqēt*. Furthermore, Monsieur Lane and his companies shall allot to the Ethiopian government no less than 5 per cent fully paid shares from the shares they sell or collect on the mining of gold, silver and other minerals. His Imperial Majesty shall protect, like the Ethiopian people, the employees of Monsieur Lane and his companies as well as their implements so as to enable them to work without fear. His Imperial Majesty makes it known herewith that Ethiopian workers can freely join the companies. However, the companies of Monsieur Lane cannot constrain [to forced labour] the peasants of Bēnišāngul.

This document shall be written in two copies, one of which will be kept in the hands of Monsieur Lane and the other under the care of the Ethiopian government.

Done in the city of Addis Ababā on 17 Tāḥśāś 1892 YG [= 26 December 1899].

I, Monsieur Lane, have confirmed with my seal ring[571] my voluntary acceptance of this concession of His Imperial Majesty, Menilek II.

Signé: C.W. Lane

571 Lit. "Seal of my hand".

Sealed & signed
in the presence of

Alfred Ilg
Conseiller d'État
Zurich (Switzerland)

Signé

HB. Weatherall
The Barr.[572]
Exmouth
England

279. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Salāmgi Camp 28 January 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I had issued an order to search for coal in all regions. I am sending you herewith what has allegedly been found in Tagulat. What I am sending you are of two types; send me [word] after examining [them] whether or not they are real [coal].

Given at the camp of Salāmgi on the 20th day of Ṭer 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 28 January 1900].

280. Gezāw to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 26 February "1900"

Sent by Azzāž Gezāw. May it reach Monsieur Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season. I, thank God, am well. How is your health?[573] Did you finish the journey safely?

Assuming that God may enable us to meet again, I have told Ato Afawarq to buy and bring me a good *Barnos* and a good pair of eyeglasses, and let it be that you help him in buying and carrying them.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 20th day of Yakkātit [=26 February "1900"].
[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Azzāž Gezāw.

572 This term is not quite legible in the original. It may be an acronym for "barrister at law".
573 Lit. "How is your body?"

281. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 8 April 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

An unexpected hardship has befallen me, for a tribulation sent from God is inevitable. After many months of illness, Rās Dārgē rested on the 15th day of Maggābit 1892 [= 24 March 1900]. My sorrow is your sorrow and, hence, I impart to you my grief.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 30th day of Maggābit 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 8 April 1900].

282. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 9 April 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Did you arrive well in your country? Did your children and your wife arrive safely? Why have you not sent me [word] on your safe arrival? Monsieur Chefneux, too, has not sent me [word] since you have left. Now he has sent me [word] that he will be coming. Since you have left, I am alone and I shall be pleased if he comes soon.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 1st day of Miyāzyā 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 9 April 1900].

283. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā, 17 May 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath Prevailed. Menilek II, the Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

I cannot write you all about my concern, as it cannot be exhausted in writing. If God secures us through the rainy season, let it be that you come and we meet in [the month of]

Ṭeqqemt. I must see you in person in Ṭeqqemt.[574] Take it to heart.[575] May God enable us to meet in safety.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 9th day of Genbot 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 17 May 1900].

284. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 27 May 1900

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Did you reach your home country safely? You had promised at the time of your departure audience that you would send me news of your situation successively. Is it because you are now among your relations that you have forgotten me? And now, send me news of your situation. Give my compliments to your wife. Has your son arrived safely? Send me all the news of Europe successively.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Genbot 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 27 May 1900).

[Seal]: This seal [belongs to] Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

285. Asfāw Bāntē to Alfred Ilg
Neuchâtel ... "June 1900"

May it reach my honourable lord, father, mother, Bitwaddad Ilg. Sir, how have you been healthwise? I, by the grace of your guardian angel, am well.

Sir, behold I have written letters to His Majesty and Her Majesty. Sir, I have also written to Rās Makwannen. I request you, Sir, to send them forth on my behalf.[576] Sir, I bow [before you] many many times. Says your servant, Asfāw Bāntē, Neuchâtel. Sir, Let me know about your voyage and safe arrival in Djibouti.

574 Lit. "let me not tarry without seeing your eyes ..." Seeing someone's eyes is an Amharic expression for seeing someone in person.

575 "Adarā", a term used in Amharic and Tegreñña to signify the act of entrusting, is also used frequently as an emphatic equivalent of "please". Hence, the sentence can be rendered literally, "I say please, please!"

576 Lit. "To make them arrive on my behalf."

286. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 2 July 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

There has come not even one letter since your departure. But I know that you would send [letters] unless there was something that intercepted them on the way. And now, let it be that you give up the place [address] where you have been sending [them] to and send me [letters] through another.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 25th day of Sanē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 2 July 1900].

287. Yebsā to Alfred Ilg
... 22 July 1900

May it reach Bitwaddad Monsieur[577] Ilg. My lord, how have you been since we parted? I was well until recently when my wife, Negāt, died on the 15th day of Ḥamlē. My lord, now do not forget me.

Written on the 15th of Ḥamlē.[578]
[Seal]: Qañňāzmāč Yebsā.

288. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 August 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

577 This is a rather unusual combination which resulted perhaps from the sad circumstances in which the writer found himself. Traditionally, the latest title was applied, and Ilg was scarcely addressed as "Monsieur" after 1897. This French term was practically regarded as a title (e.g. see doc. No. 274) in the Menilek era.

578 This date is probably erroneous, as it coincides with the date of the death of the writer's wife. The letter was written probably a month later.

I think I forgot to tell you at the time we listed all the things you would bring me - before your departure - [to include] a chronometer watch [sic]. And now, let it be that you bring me the best quality of chronometer watch. I told you at the time of your departure to bring me large and small eyeglasses. Let it not be forgotten. You had also promised to send me shoes from Djibouti. You did not send me the shoes at the time you sent me the pistol. As to the other things you may bring me, check the list we made earlier. Moreover, you certainly know all the things I want! What note is necessary? That is why I have not listed all the other things. More importantly, I was pleased when I saw your letter in which you stated that you would be coming in Ṭeqqemt [October-November], and imagined that you were here.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 11th day of Naḥasē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 17 August 1900].

289. Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 17 August 1900

May it reach my venerated friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. I bow[579] before you wishing that He give you health. How have you been? We, thank God, are well.[580]

Your handsome letter written in the city of Zurich on the 30th of Sanē[581] has reached me. As to your request to convey your greetings, I have conveyed them to our father,[582] to your friends and all the pages in accordance with your request. Grāzmāč Yosēf was, however, ill as a result of *Koso*[583]. Consequently, he rested on the 21st of Sanē [= 28 June]. We lost our brother. Maybe you have already heard the news. But I was astonished when before hearing the news of his death you sent me an enquiry like the prophets, "Is Grāzmāč Yosēf dead or is he sleeping?" As to your question about the location of Salāmgi, you were aware when you were here that His Majesty was looking for a place fit for a magazine. And now, a good place by the name of Salāmgi was found in Bulgā and a good town[584] has been built. The construction began in early February and was completed, including the stockade and the premises, before June began. As to your *Šum*, Ato Walda Ṣādeq, he mobilized the men of Mulo and transported up to Salāmgi ploughshares and crowbars from Addis Ababā

579 This is an interesting case in an unstudied area of Ethiopian culture: could the Imperial Ṣaḥafē teʿezāz prostrate himself before an Imperial Bitwaddad according to the traditional protocol of the Ethiopian royal court, or did the writer thus formulate out of negligence, joke, irony or the like?

580 This sentence is grammatically incorrect in the original. The author probably did not reread his letter. Otherwise, he was versed in Amharic and Geʿez, as can be gathered from his chronicle of Menilek II.

581 For this type of date, see note 27 supra.

582 Abuna Mātēwos?

583 This term has been retained, as it is not clear from the context whether the victim died of tapeworm or from the overdose of the medicine. Both tapeworm and the usual medicine against it (made from the flower or seed of the Hagenia abyssinica) are known as *Koso*. Cf. KaneDic p. 1403; DaMQ p. 684.

584 "Katama" = "town" in this context probably signifies a fortification.

for digging during the construction and came [home]. Besides this, he did not do anything. His Majesty had summoned your *Šum*, Ato Walda Ṣādeq, and told him admonishingly not to neglect his [Ilg's] work on account of his transporting ploughshares and crowbars up to Salāmgi. Nothing will go amiss for you. I had requested you to bring me an ink-pad for His Majesty's seal that was brought by Monsieur Chefneux. And now I should like to remind you about it so that it may not be forgotten. May God enable us to meet in life.

Written in the city of Addis Ababā on the 11th day of Naḥasē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 17 August 1900].

[Seal]: Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē who is secretary of the [royal] orders.

290. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Zurich on the 30th day of Sanē[585] reached me on the 4th day of Naḥasē [= 10 August]. With the exception of this one, no letter has reached me since your departure from Djibouti. I never suspect that you may not write to me, but there may be a schemer who may intercept [them] to our disadvantage. The pistol you sent me from Djibouti has reached me. I have written you many other letters, though they may not have reached you. And now, let it be that you send me frequently [news] about all events. As to the rumours of your enemies, they have even spread the rumour that you died, let alone that you would not return. I, however, have had no suspicion in my heart, for we had an understanding before you left. I was happy that the railway reached our country. But I was very disappointed when you sent me [word] that money has become scarce in your country[586] on account of the war.

When I saw the statement that you would start out in Ṭeqqemt [October-November] and come, I was exceedingly delighted. You know that I have so far been alone and I hope you will come for my sake quickly. I have seen all the news you have written me. As to the matter you sent me [word about] concerning Asfāw Bāntē, I have written him [a letter]. As to your remark that you could not write everything you have observed in the city of Paris, you will relate to me all when we meet again, God willing. However, let it be that you bring me some of the light things from among those you have stated to have seen. I am also pleased that you remembered my birthday and sent good wishes in advance. God is

585 For such a date, see note 27 supra.

586 This may refer to the continent, rather than Switzerland, as the railway share was sold in various countries.

generous, and may He bestow upon us all long life and let us all, unseparated from each other, experience the same [event] every year. Give my best regards to your wife and children. May God enable us to meet each other again and to converse with each other.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 12th day of Nahasē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 18 August 1900].

291. Ṭāytu Beṭul to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900

Sent by Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter written in the city of Zurich on the 30th day of Sanē[587] reached me on the 4th day of Naḥasē [= 11 August]. However, I think there is someone on the way who intercepts all the letters you send. No [other] letter has reached us since your departure. I do not suspect that you could be resting until now without writing us two or three letters. I sent you a letter saying that the ornament implements[588] you sent through the hands of the servants of Monsieur Chefneux have reached me safely. Maybe it has not reached you. Furthermore, I was delighted when you sent me [word] that you had discovered a new type of bridge [material] and that you would bring with you a specialist [for it]. In addition, please do not forget [to bring] the wicks. Send me quickly in advance the thick types dipped in chemicals. As to Grāzmāč Yosēf, he was sick for a few days as a result of *Koso*. He departed from us unexpectedly. He rested on the holiday of St. Mary in Sanē [= 28 June]. May God give us and you long life and health and enable us to meet in life. Give my greetings to your wife and child.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on 12 Naḥasē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 18 August 190 0].

[Seal]: Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia.

292. Bayyana to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 18 August 1900

May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg.

587 For this type of date, see note 27 supra.

588 It is difficult to establish from the original what kind of objects this phrase refers to. As the equivalent of machine is not used to describe the objects, it may be safe to assume that they were tools with which one could make ornaments.

When you encounter a serious matter, it would be good [if] you and I 4 77 115 53 82, 135 98 38, 5 38 71 *could correspond using the alphabet we devised.*[589]

Your letter written in Zurich and which has arrived here now would be according to that of our country, 63 32 16 148 131 132. *Amharic writing*. As for me, I had written you twice 4 77 115 53 82, 135 98 38 *using the alphabet we had devised*; I am disappointed, as no answer came. I bow [before you] wishing that He give you health. 38 179 77, 7 84 53 *Your son, Bayyana*[590].

I beg you to give my greetings to Madame Ilg and the little one.

Written in Addis Ababā on 12 Naḥasē 1892 [= 18 August 1900].

[Signature]: ... [scarcely legible]

293. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 25 August "1900"

May it reach my honourable friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. May ample peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, the governor of Ḥarar and all its districts.

I reached Ḥarargē safely. But I am longing very much to see you. How about your children and your wife? Did they arrive safely? Give my greetings [to them]. Let it also be that you send me [word] about the state of your well-being. May God give you ample peace and health.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on 20 Naḥasē [= 25 August "1900"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

294. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 26 August 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

Assuming that Monsieur Chefneux had dispatched Thalers, I sent at one time Abubakkar

589 The texts in italics correspond to the numerical codes. Each corresponding letter is written above the number in the original. The decoding was probably done by Ilg.

590 It is difficult to identify this person, as there were several people by the same name in the Menilek era. If we consider his device of coding messages, he must have been Qañňāzmāč Bayyana Yemar who was one of the first Ethiopians to be trained in the running of the telephone and telegraph services. Later, he held several ministerial offices including that of the Posts, Telephone and Telegraphs. Cf. HWSBiog p. 28; MSEthCul p. 230.

and another time Maršā to Djibouti to transport them to me. They returned bringing nothing for me and saying that there had come no Thalers. Will it not be better if Monsieur Chefneux sends me the Thalers in advance if he himself has to stay there for some reason? And now, today is the day when the salaried soldiers should receive their pay. Let it be that the Thalers be sent to me soon, for I am short of them in my treasury[591] and I am worried.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Naḥasē 1892 of the Year of Grace [= 26 August 1900].

295. Alfred Ilg to Gabra Śellāsē Walda Aragāy
Zurich 12 September "1900"

Sent by Monsieur Ilg. May it reach Alaqā Gabra Śellāsē. How have you indeed been, my lord? I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. I shall bring the *Barnos* you asked for. However, why do you write[592] me only such a thing? Would it be inappropriate if you sent some news of your[pl.] country, or, is it with the assumption that Monsieur Ilg is a mere businessman that you[pl.] write to me thus? I am working hard on your[pl.] behalf without sleep; is it too much for you[pl.] [to send] a couple of words? This is not good. I can find no one who thinks about me. I think friendship and respect are superficial[593] in your country; they are not from the bottom of your[pl.] heart. Is Grāzmāč Yosēf such a sleepyhead?[594] If nothing else, please give my best regards to all the court officials[595]. When I come back, I will make you all work very hard. I will make you carry stones, wood, grass and mud. Terrible people! If only God would enable us to meet in safety.

Written in Zurich on the 4th day of Ṗāgumēn (= 12 September "1899"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

296. Menilek II to Comboul
"Addis Ababā" 15 September 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

591 Lit. "in my house".
592 Lit. "send".
593 Lit. "Only by mouth".
594 Cf. doc. 289 supra. Either Ilg has posed this question for the second time or there is something wrong with the dating of this letter.
595 Lit. "to all held in favour".

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Monsieur Comboul. How have you been?[596] I, thank God, am well.

Your letter has reached me. Regarding your proposal to buy the complete spare parts for the damaged cannons and rifles, go ahead; it is fine. As to the craftsman, what purpose does the importing of the gadgets[597] serve if he is not coming? He should stay [here] at least for a year until our workers have acquired the skill and have [some] experience, after which he may stay longer if he likes or leave for his home country if he does not. Do not leave the craftsman behind; bring him with you. I have sent [word] to Djibouti saying that they should receive and forward to me the smithing[598] appliances that Monsieur Comboul has shipped on my behalf. As to the machine for the carving of seals which you said might cost a great deal of Thalers, leave it out if it is [so] expensive. Send me one of each type, as you suggested.[599] I was pleased at the news you imparted that the coal was of a good quality.

Given on the 5th day of Maskaram 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 15 September 1900].

297. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 September 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.

Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

The letter written in the city of Zurich on the 30th day of Naḥasē [= 5 September] which stated that you were well together with your wife and children, reached me on the 30th day of Naḥasē.[600] Earlier, I was sad, as your letters did not reach me for a long time. I was exceedingly happy when the two letters you sent through the hands of Captain Ciccodicola reached me, for exchanging letters is tantamount to meeting each other. I have seen all the news you wrote me. Let it then be that you send me [news] about everything successively through the hands of Captain Ciccodicola. In so far as you know the things I like, let it be that you, in consultation with Liqa makwās Nādaw, buy for me from among the new products when you go to Paris. The rainy season of this year has been very intensive. But in spite of too much rain, the grain is abundant in all the regions. We sent you [news] some time ago about the death of Grāzmāč Yosēf. He took medicine and consequently died

596 Lit. "How have you spent the rainy season?"

597 "Massarwa" may also signify implements. It is not clear whether this sentence is related to the preceding one.

598 Perhaps mining appliances, as the named engineer was involved in the Wallaggā gold mining.

599 This statement is probably not related to the preceding one, but the items to be sent are also not named.

600 One of the dates in this sentence is obviously incorrect. The first should probably have been 30 Ḥamlē [= 6 August].

unexpectedly. We had not expected that he would die. Give my best regards to your wife and children. May God bring you back safely and enable us to converse with each other.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 5th day of Maskaram 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 15 September 1900].

298. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 15 September 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been throughout the rainy season? I, thank God, am well.

I sent you [word] a short time ago that the time for paying the soldiers had come. And now, I am short of Thalers, and let it be that Thalers be sent to me. I have also sent [a letter] to Monsieur Chefneux. With regard to the telephone, the ceramic insulators and the poles have been struck by lightning, and as there are no spare ceramic insulators, it has become almost inaudible to telephone between Addis Ababā and Ḥarargē though we are [still] using it with great difficulty. And now, let it be that you seriously consider this matter of the ceramic insulators.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 5th day of Maskaram 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 15 September 1900].

299. Alfred Ilg to Menilek II
Zurich 5 October "1900"

May it reach the venerated and supreme Menilek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My wife and my relations present their greetings of reverence.

Your Majesty's letter given on the 19th day of Naḥasē [= 26 August] has reached me. I had sent [a message] to Monsieur Chefneux in accordance with your Majesty's order, and Monsieur Chefneux has answered me, saying, "His Majesty's letter has reached me, too. All right, I will send the Thalers His Majesty has told me to." I will start out from here soon together with my wife. My wife is better today by the grace of God and under the guardian angel of Your Majesty and Her Majesty. She has, however, not much strength as yet. It is difficult today to bring along a great deal of articles. All the ships are filled with the provisions and belongings of the government soldiers in China, and they are troubling us by refusing to accept any other goods. I do not think the war in China will end soon. The

end of the Transvaal war is also not foreseeable. There is no other news. Only in Italy, [people] are very happy that Your Majesty has settled the boundary question. Monsieur Harrington is hopeful that their [British] boundary will also be settled, and he requested me to take along a surveyor for Your Majesty. I sent him [a message] saying that it was inappropriate to do so without the permission of Your Majesty. As to myself, I will send [a message] to Your Majesty as soon as I arrive in Djibouti. May God preserve Your Majesty and Her Majesty in peace and health.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 25th day of Maskaram (= 5 October "1900"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

300. Alfred Ilg to Ṭāytu Beṭul
Zurich 5 October "1900"

May it reach the venerated and supreme Empress Ṭāytu, Light of Ethiopia. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health.

I was exceedingly happy when Monsieur Milli sent me a telegram saying that my letter of the 30th day of Ḥamlē [= 5 August] had reached [you]. I also thanked God abundantly. when he told me that His Majesty and Her Majesty were well. My wife sends[601] many greetings. My children and relations send their greetings of reverence. I sent promptly the wicks Your Majesty had ordered me to send. I sent them to the city of Marseilles. However, because of the war, there are too many goods to be shipped and they [the shippers] have troubled us by refusing to accept further [loads]. They have, however, sent me [a message] that they would somehow ship them. By the grace of God, my wife is better today. Nonetheless, she has no strength. We shall, nevertheless, start out and we wish to arrive [there] quickly, as we are longing for His Majesty and Your Majesty. Hence, we intend to come up via the wasteland route. We shall send [a message] as soon as we arrive in Djibouti. May God enable us to meet each other in the flesh.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 25th day of Maskaram [= 5 October "1900"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

301. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl
Zurich 5 October "1900"

May it reach my honourable lord and great friend Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and its districts. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you

601 Lit. "... prostrates herself [before H.M.] many times".

health. How have you indeed been? Congratulations on your return[602] to your governorate.

My wife and I were exceedingly pleased when your letter written on the 20th day of Naḥasē [= 25 August] reached us, for we were disappointed assuming that Rās Makwannen had forgotten us, as there came no answer to all the letters I had sent. Now, we will start out today in a week. We had intended to start out earlier, but my wife was ill and lay in bed for a long time and, hence, we delayed a bit. Both my children are well, by the grace of God and under the favour of your guardian angel. However, I shall leave them here in this country, for the journey is long. Liqa makwās Nādaw has gone to Jerusalem. We met only briefly. I found him to be not so friendly as before. I do not know whether it is arrogance, or whether Monsieur Lagarde instigated him to be cross with me or it was something else. The French are rather unhappy. They had hoped that at least Rās Makwannen if not His Majesty would come. They are unhappy with the absence of both of you. The English are worried about the matters in China and Transvaal. Today Ethiopia is put a little bit aside. The Italians are exceedingly happy about the settlement of the boundary question. God knows what the Russians think. We shall talk about everything when we meet. My wife sends greetings of reverence enquiring after your health.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 25th day of Maskaram [= 5 October "1900"].

302. Alfred Ilg to Gezāw[?]
Zurich 5 October "1900"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my honorable lord, king of Enṭoṭṭo, the Azzāž and shepherd of the *Faranǧ*, the buyer and seller.[603] How have you indeed been? My wife and I are well by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

As I have been away from your command for so long, His Majesty demands of me to come immediately; I am afraid of you. Hence, starting out has become a problem. The *Faranǧ* have been waiting for you with their chains ready assuming that His Majesty would send you to the country of the *Faranǧ* together with the Liqa makwās. But that did not happen. All were very sad. We are worried about what will become of us. However, even God is compassionate let alone the king of Enṭoṭṭo, and we hope to survive somehow. May

602 This may be a reference to the notable's return from the military expeditions to Tegrāy and western Wallaggā. Otherwise, Makwannen held the governorate of Ḥarar uninterruptedly from 1887-1906.

603 This ironical and jocund letter was probably addressed to Azzāž Gezāw, the major-domo of the Imperial palace under whom Ilg probably worked earlier as an engineer. In any case, their relationship must have been very amicable. His title literally means "commander" and he probably behaved like an absolute monarch. But his friend tells him he was nothing more than a king of an abandoned mountain fortress. Ilg makes further a pun of his name which is a derivative of "gazza" signifying to rule and to buy. As a personal name, the first meaning is intended, but Ilg teases him with the second meaning, adding that the buyer is also logically a seller.

God enable us to meet in the bodily life.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 25th day of Maskaram [= 5 October "1900"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

303. Alfred Ilg to Yebsā
Zurich 5 October "1900"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my honorable friend, Qañňāzmāč Yebsā. How have you indeed been, my lord? My wife and I are well by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel.

Your respectable letter written on the 15th day of Ḥamlē [= 22 July] has reached me. However, I was very sad to hear about the death of your wife, Wayzaro Negāt. May God console you. I shall now be coming together with my wife. However, I shall leave my children here. The journey is long. Furthermore, the wilderness is dangerous for children. Please, my lord, convey my greetings of respect to all our friends. May God enable us to meet each other again.

Written in the city of Zurich on the 25th day of Maskaram [= 5 October "1900"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

304. Asfāw Bāntē to Alfred Ilg
"Neuchâtel 7 October 1900"[604]

May it reach His Excellency and my lord, Bitwaddad Ilg. Sir, how have you been? I, thank God, am well through the help of your guardian angel.

Sir, when I inquired [about you] on Wednesday, I was told you would be leaving on Thursday. Why? Sir, [I expected that] you would visit me in good or bad circumstances. Sir, why? How can you leave before we meet? Sir, I learnt about it from the newspaper. Sir, you had promised to let me come to you. Sir, and now give me a reply so that I may know whether or not you are staying there. Sir, would a person who has parents be ignored and left behind? I cannot see why you, Sir, should leave without talking to me.[605]

Sir, I prostrate myself before you many times.
Asfāw Bāntē

604 This letter is not dated in the original, but Ilg put on it "7 November 1900", which was probably the date on which he received it. Ilg left Zurich in the second week of October 1900 and reached Addis Ababā towards the end of December. So, he must have received the letter either in Djibouti or Ḥarar.

605 Lit. "My view is, why you, Sir, should leave without talking to me".

305. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis Ababā 29 October 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

When your servants went to meet you, I became exceedingly happy, having imagined that I met you. The reason why I have not written about various matters is because I deemed it unnecessary, as you yourself are coming. May God enable us to see each other in the flesh.

Given in the city of Addis Ababā on the 19th day of Ṭeqqemt 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 29 October 1900].

306. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 2 November 1900

May it reach my venerated friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Plenty of peace and health be to you.[606] Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and all its districts.

I sent a quick reply when your earlier letter came. Lately, I have been travelling and, hence, could not give you a prompt reply. And now, the letter you sent has reached me. We will talk about everything when you come here. Let me know (of your arrival) when you reach Djibouti. Give my best regards to your wife[607]. May God give you plenty of peace and health. May He also enable us to see each other eye to eye.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on 23 Ṭeqqemt 1893 YG [= 2 November 1900].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

307. Menilek II to Alfred Ilg
Addis ʾAlam Camp 1 December 1900

The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed.
Menilek, King of Kings of Ethiopia.
The Lion of the Tribe of Judah hath prevailed. Menilek II, Elect of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia. May it reach Bitwaddad Ilg. How have you been? I, thank God, am well.

606 This sentence should actually have come after the next one in accordance with the practice of the period.
607 Lit. "to the lady of the house".

Your letter written on the 25th day of Maskaram[608] has reached me. While I was thinking of giving you a reply, someone who saw your servants going via Yarar down to Djibouti to meet you, told Rās Makwannen and others that Bitwaddad Ilg was making a forced march up to His Majesty, and I heard this news by telephone from Ḥarar. I was very shocked wondering what could have happened that he [Ilg] should make such a forced march. Now however, I am writing you this letter since I have heard that you arrived in Djibouti after Monsieur Lagarde and others left Djibouti. Give my greetings to your wife. May God bring you [here] in safety and enable us to see each other in the flesh.

Given in the camp of Addis ʾAlam on the 22nd day of Ḥedār 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 1 December 1900].

308. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikāʿēl
Dawānlē 11 December "1900"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated lord, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. How have you indeed been?

My wife and I by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, have arrived safely at Dowālē. As our things are too many and in order to reach His Majesty and Her Majesty quickly, we have decided to go via Harawā and Yarar. We would have very much liked to meet you. But if we go to Ḥarargē, we shall sojourn long on the way. His Majesty has sent me [orders] to come immediately. Now, I will send you some token presents through the hands of my servants from Lās Ḥarar. We shall start out for Lās Ḥarar after tomorrow. We will discuss our matters later by telephone. We put our trust in you that the Adāl will not delay us at Yarar and that we will be able to proceed quickly. Furthermore, I request you to send me some provisions through the hands of the Adāl.[609] We shall arrive at Yarar today in twelve days. Hence, please send me the provisions immediately. I entreat with you for it, my lord. I beg you also to announce my coming by telephone to His Majesty and Her Majesty saying that the Redeemer of the World may give them health. Moreover, a grand Frenchman, Monsieur Hugues Le Roux,[610] will, together with Monsieur Carrette, come up to you and to His Majesty. This person is a highly respected man and a great author and a journalist. Hence, please see to it that he be well treated and that he receives His Majesty's

608 For this type of date, see note 27 supra.

609 This statement is vague in the original. It is not clear whether the provisions were intended for the Adāl, or the Adāl were used only as a means. I am of the opinion that the latter is correct, unless of course the so-called "Adāl" are caravan people directly related to the transport of Ilg's goods, in which case he should naturally be concerned with their provisions.

610 This French engineer, writer and diplomat remained in the country for a dozen or so years. He was attached to the French legation in Addis Ababā during the years 1900-09. Cf. Mén pp. 502, 540. Among his widely known publications are two books on Ethiopia: Ménélik et nous (Paris 1902); Chez la reine de Saba (Paris 1917).

permit to be well received in every region. I beg you for it, my lord. I think the French government have sent him. He is famous. He is, besides, a friend to all the grandees. According to a rumour, he will eventually replace Monsieur Lagarde. I do not know if this is true or false. The official sent to Djibouti seems to me rather dignified. He saw to it that I passed through well. He told me that he would come up to Dawānlē after a few days. It would be good if you could send three beeves and a few castrated he-goats[611] as a sign of friendship and [give orders] that your officials receive him well. However, you know best. My wife sends her greetings. she was eager to meet you, her friend. But the way is too long. I will send [another message] when my servants start out. May God give you health, says your friend.

Written at Dawānlē on the 2nd of Tāḥśāś [= 11 December "1900"].

[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

309. Makwannen Walda Mikāᶜēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 14 December "1900"

May it reach my venerated[612] friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Plenty of peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, the governor of Ḥarar and its districts. I have heard of your arrival in Djibouti. I am very glad at your arrival there. Is your wife well? I beg you to let me know if you are travelling along the lower route or over this one. May God give you strong health.

Written in Ḥarar on the 5th day of Tāḥśāś [= 14 December "1900"].

[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

310. Māᶜemmur Ǧaldēssā to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 20 December "1900"

May it reach my father and friend, Monsieur Ilg. How have you indeed been? I, thank God, am well.

Your respected letter written at Dabaᶜasā has reached me. I received it with joy. Behold, I have sent someone, as you have made me aware that you were going spend the night at Šarššarbē. The Rās, too, had told me to send you someone immediately. We have sent [a

611 "Mukket" refers to both castrated goats and sheep. In so far as goats were preferred particularly among the Christians in Ḥarar in contrast to the highland of Šawā, I have chosen he-goat for the translation.

612 The term "kebur" and the phrase "elamenwotālahu" at the end of this letter as well as the Amharic respect form used in this letter do not conform with the usual manner of address Rās Makwannen used when corresponding with Ilg. But the letters of Rās Makwannen show a great deal of inconsistency anyway, and his manner of conducting his correspondence is an area which deserves a special study.

message] that the things [trunks] in Gildēssā be transported immediately. May God enable us to meet in safety.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 11th day of Tāḥśāś [= 20 December "1900"].
[Seal]: Mā^{c}emmur Ǧaldēssā.

311. Alfred Ilg to Makwannen Walda Mikā^{c}ēl
Aro Hadagālā 23 December "1900"

Sent by Bitwaddad Ilg. May it reach my venerated friend, Rās Makwannen. I pay to you my obeisance wishing that the Redeemer of the World give you health. My wife and I are, by the grace of God and under the protection of your guardian angel, well.

Your letter written on the 5th day of Tāḥśāś [= 14 December] has reached me. May God reward you for the esteemed greetings. Nevertheless, I am very disappointed that I could not find anything substantial in your letter. It would not matter if you would not tell me about the death of Monsieur Wulschlegger. But I had expected that you would impart to me the well-being of His Majesty and Her Majesty. How is it that you make me always a stranger in spite of my greying among you? However, why should I bore you! Do not at any rate deny me greetings. My wife sends her greetings of respect. Being separated from her children, she is tramping about with me in the wilderness. As a token of friendship, I have handed a small carpet for you to Ato Yosēf. Let it be a souvenir from Monsieur Chefneux and myself. We trust in you that we shall not sojourn at Yarar. Do not forget us, my lord. May God give you peace and health.

Written at Aro Hadagālā on the 14th day of Tāḥśāś [= 23 December "1900"].
[Signature]: Alfred Ilg.

312. Makwannen Walda Mikā^{c}ēl to Alfred Ilg
Ḥarar 26 December 1900

May it reach my venerated friend, Bitwaddad Ilg. Plenty of peace and health be to you. Sent by Rās Makwannen, governor of Ḥarar and all its districts.

After you[613] sent me [a letter], an order of His Majesty came and, hence, here I am starting out for Addis Ababā. In any case, we shall meet there. Let a servant convey my greetings to your wife. May God enable us to meet in life.

Written in the town of Ḥarar on the 17th day of Tāḥśāś 1893 of the Year of Grace [= 26 December 1900].
[Seal]: Rās Makwannen, H.

613 Respect form.

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